



T H E  
L I T E R A R Y M A G A Z I N E.  
N U M B. XII.

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From *March 15*, to *April 15*, 1757.

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*Essay on the French Government continued from p. 63, and concluded.*



It has happened, and frequent instances can be produced of it, that overgrown favourites and advisers near the king's person have been offended that the parliament should make any kind of opposition to their measures; and in consequence of this umbrage taken by the ministry, our kings have signified by their chancellors their royal will and pleasure, that the parliament should not take upon them to decide affairs of state: but soon after the delivery of such messages these authoritative masters have invariably applied to parliament for their advice, concerning the very same matters, which lately had been interdicted; and their motive to this condescension was, that they might not render their administration more odious and intolerable than the reigns of their predecessors.

*Louis XI.* sent his parliament the form of his coronation oath, by which he had bound himself in the usual terms, to do justice to his subjects, recommending in a very earnest manner to the judges of that high court that they would consider how solemnly he was engaged, and that they would make his conscience easy, and permit him to keep a promise of so sacred a nature. *Louis XII.* did not come to an open rupture with the pope without the

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previous consent of his parliament. Under *Francis I.* the parliament annulled the treaties of *Madrid* and *Cambray*, and on the 19th of *January*, 1537, the king then sitting on his bed of justice, it was enacted that the emperor *Charles V.* then simply styled *Charles of Austria*, should be called upon to answer his majesty's attorney-general touching all his conclusions concerning the reversion and reunion of the crown of the three courts of *Flanders*, of *Artois* and *Charolois*.

When *Francis II.* in the year 1560, held his bed of justice, the admiral *Coligni*, after having knelt down three several times, presented his petition for the free exercise of the pretended reformed religion: and in 1593, the parliament made a famous decree for the support of the *Galique* law. In 1614, during the minority of *Louis XIII.* the prince of *Condé* in his letter to the parliament, styles them the *principal guardians of the constitution*. In 1635, *Louis XIII.* applied to parliament to register his declaration of war against *Spain*: and the most solemn treaties of peace with *Austria*, and the kings of *England*, have been invariably registered and published by parliament.

*Louis XI.* did not hesitate to declare, that treaties not duly published in parliament, were of no validity: but it is more than probable that these sentiments were uttered by his majesty, not with a view to establish the maxim, but in order to disengage him-

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self from some treaty that he found inconvenient.

*Castelnau* avers in his *Memoirs*, that edicts carry no weight or authority before they are ratified by parliament. But the noble writer was better acquainted with negotiations and warlike matters, than with the rights of the public, and he has therefore mistaken a mere matter of form for a necessary condition. When the parliament register a deed, it does not give any kind of additional authority to the law: the use of such registering is to signify to the people that it is consistent with justice, and to give, as it were, a gracious and mild appearance to the rigor of the law, by the observance of a custom in vogue since the first establishment of our monarchy.

It is a mistake on the opposite extreme to suppose that the registering of parliament is only a mere publication of the act. If that were the case, all edicts, declarations, ordinances, statutes, and letters-patent should be sent to the rolls, instead of being presented by the king's council to the houses of parliament assembled, to whom they are addressed in order to have, according to ancient institution, the opinions and advice of an assembly instructed in the laws, and whose duty it is to watch over the interests of the crown, intimately connected with the true rights and interests of the people.

Some months ago was published here an illegal pamphlet, libellous against the king's prerogative, injurious to the dignity of the parliament, and full of ridiculous and absurd positions. The title of it was, *Memoirs concerning the origin and authority of the Parliament of France*: and it was ordered to be burnt by the common hangman or executioner. This mistaken author vainly imagined that our parliament is, as it were, an abridgment of the three states. We perceive, says he, to this day that the church is represented by a number of ecclesiastics; the nobility by the princes of the blood, the dukes and peers of *France*; and in short it is apparent, that in the whole collective body, all the orders of a mixed constitution are united, and harmonized into an amicable and general corporation.

It is an absurd assertion that the parliament is a coalition of the three states, because the three states were not so much as known till about 900 years after the establishment of the parliament. *Mezerai*, *Froipart*, and in particular *Pasquin*, will give the reader a clear idea of the novelty

of the three states; and it will appear that the parliament has never been confounded with the general states, but has been time immemorial the high court of peers.

In the procession of the general states on the 23d of *October*, 1614, the three states walked in the foremost rank, the nobility followed, and then the clergy with the sacrament; after which came the king, the queen, the princesses, &c. who were immediately followed by the members of parliament; and his majesty was not accompanied by any of the peers, because the parliament would not suffer any one to go between them and their sovereign.

There are those who imagine, when the parliament became sedentary, that is to say, when the sessions were regularly fixed in one place, that the nobility then withdrew themselves from having any farther share in the magistracy. But this is a very mistaken notion. Many conspicuous families, that were of the parliament at that time, remain in it to this day. It would be easy to cite many honourable names on this occasion; and we could shew that we have had our *Aristides's*, our *Fabricii*, and our *Cato's* in the persons of the *Brochart's*, the *Montbolon's*, and *Molé*, the first president, of whom cardinal *de Retz* says in his memoirs, "If it were not a species of blasphemy to say that, in our age, there is any one of greater intrepidity than the *Great Gustavus*, I should not hesitate to say, it is *Montieur Molé*."

It must be allowed there is a difference in the dress of the magistracy, and of the peers, which has inclined some to think they form two different states. The peers, it is true, wear their sword in the high court, whereas the gentlemen of the long robe are without them. But let us trace this matter to its source. The dress of the president was formerly the royal apparel. In all the ancient monuments of the *French* monarchy, our kings are represented in their long robes and without any swords; and it is certain that all the great people of the realm, the peers, and even the heir apparent of the crown used to lay aside their swords, when entering the parliament-house. This custom subsisted till the reign of *Henry II.* who ordained by a missive letter, and not by patent, that the princes of the blood, the peers of the realm, the high-constable and marshals of *France* should have a right to wear their swords in the parliament house. Notwithstanding which, there have been recent instances of the ancient custom of laying aside the sword during



during attendance in parliament; and it is certain that the long robe, which is the proper raiment of magistracy, should be regarded, not as the mark of a different rank and condition, but as the continuation of an old custom.

In order to prove incontestibly that the parliament is a branch of the nobility, it need only be mentioned, that the chancellor, in the name of the king, makes every member of parliament rise in his place, when he addresses his majesty in his bed of justice: which is a characteristic mark of nobility, the three states and the deputations from cities being obliged to speak on their knees.

The corruption and venality which, notwithstanding many prohibiting edicts, have obtained in the distribution of seats in the high court of parliament, have in a great measure abated from the dignity. The attorney-general applied to parliament to dispense with the oath, which each member was obliged to take, at his admission, *viz.* that he had not paid any money for his seat; because the oath was generally equivocal, and the parliament therefore suppressed it for the future.

Cardinal Richlieu is of opinion that the venality, which prevails in the distribution of offices of state, is of real service and utility; and his reason is perhaps not a bad one. "Although, says he, venality is unconstitutional, the abuses, which would attend the suppression of it, are of such a nature, that the consequences would be more fatal to the kingdom in general. The magistracy would then be disposed of by faction and cabals; the door would not be opened to virtue, but to the tools of a party, and to men of mean extraction, in possession of more *Latin* than wealth, by which means it would happen that the more affluent and powerful would influence the voices of the inferior and indigent, from whence many inconveniences would arise." These inconveniences are in some sort remedied by an edict of Philip of Valois, in 1344, directing, that no one should be installed in the office of president, counsellor of the parliament, or master of the requests, until the chancellor or the parliament shall have testified to the king that the candidate has all the proper qualifications for a due discharge of his office.

It has been often reproached to the kingdom of France, that we have more professors of chicanery than all the rest of Europe put together. According to Claude Seyssel,

who was master of requests before he was archbishop of Turin, there are more practitioners in France\* alone than in all the rest of the christian world. Seyssel lived in the reign of Louis XII. and the number is not diminished since his time; and in *Commines' Memoirs* we are told, that Louis XI. had formed a design of reforming the course of justice, of rendering it uniform, and establishing in his kingdom the *same customs*, the *same weights*, and the *same measure*.

There is no manner of doubt but the overgrown multitude of law-practitioners are so many blood-suckers among the people. That race of men subsist entirely by law suits, which they give birth to, and which they are industrious to prolong†. This is a nuisance than which nothing can be more detrimental to the state; it is the source of fraud; it extinguishes the seeds of honour and honesty in mankind; it frequently engages them in a course of wrangling, which of necessity detaches their minds from all useful occupations, and well-nigh hath banished the spirit of commerce, the only true inlet of riches to a nation. Even in the high courts of justice there are not wanting those, who think the bench, on which they preside, is never so much honoured, as when it is crowded with law-suits: in proportion as causes are multiplied, vainly they imagine that their own consequence is aggrandized, and, tho' very moderate‡ in their demands, they are still sufficiently sensible of the profits accruing to them.

The holy scripture prescribes that men should be chosen for magistrates, who are in themselves powerful, who fear the Deity; who are possessed with a love of truth, and are untainted with avarice. Happy must be the country where this rule is observed! Formerly the administration of justice in the kingdom of France was purely gratuitous||, and given freely to the

\* We presume, England was little known to this author, otherwise it is possible he would have done us the honour of excepting us on this occasion.

† We wish we could except our own dear country from this reflection and the following sarcasms.

‡ Here we must do honour to our own country; so far from being pitifully moderate, clients with us are often ruined to support the grandeur of our laws and the practitioners of them.

|| We are afraid, this never was the case in England.



parties concerned. The fees of the court were originally nothing more than by way of present, may be a few sugar-plums, comfits, or grocery of some sort; but the course of time has converted it into a pecuniary retribution, and the custom has now the force of a law.

Another rock, on which the generality of judges are apt to split, is, the desire too common among them of currying favour at court. To seek the favour of the great is a thing very incompatible with the rigor of duty which the magistracy should observe. The only ambition of a magistrate should be to render himself worthy of his important trust without intriguing or caballing. In the reign of *Henry II.* the king's council having lodged an information, that several officers of the parliament were seen too frequent and too assiduous at court, it was enacted that no magistrate whatever should go to court without a permission regularly obtained; and the reason was this: they were afraid that, as they had made judges out of the body of courtiers, they should now create courtiers among judges.

Having now given our readers an idea of the parliament of *Paris*, and shewn that our laws, if well administered, are in themselves wholesome and salutary, let us, before we conclude, examine some certain opinions concerning the general states. *Pasquier*, in his treatise on this subject, observes that there are many, who, pretending to be deeply versed in the history of *France*, deduce the assembly of the general states from remote periods of antiquity, and thereon establish the liberty of the people: but both these opinions are groundless and false.

The first assembly of the states was summoned under *Philip*, surnamed *Le Bel*, in the year 1301, at least 900 years after the institution of the parliament, which dates its origin with our monarchy itself. The reason of this convocation was, that the king might have an opportunity of assuring himself of the fidelity and attachment of his subjects against the pretensions of *Boniface VIII.* Nothing seems better ascertained in the annals of our history than the recent institution of the general states; and with regard to the opinion, which founds all our hopes of justice and liberty on that basis, there are many obvious remarks touching that assertion. If the choice of persons deputed to represent the different cities were purely made from a regard to each person's integrity and abilities; if their characters corresponded with the rea-

sons which determined their choice; if a spirit of obedience were sure to regulate their conduct; if tranquillity and good order were the only objects in their view; if those, who have greatest weight and prevalence in a popular assembly, had no designs, but such as tend to the general utility, and if they always had a thorough knowledge of exigencies and of the different conjunctures that happen in a state; if the enterprizes resolved upon by his majesty and his council, are of such a nature that they do not require secrecy to secure success; if every member, who has a right to vote in the general assembly, or at least the major part of them, prefer the public to their own utility, and conjoin a clear and full intelligence of the situation of things with a spirit of disinterestedness, it must be allowed that great good might arise from such general sessions of a popular assembly; and the more a monarch reveals to his people the measures of his administration, the more his authority will ever be respected, and the minds of men will glow with a cordial affection and zeal for the honour of his crown. Besides it may happen that the king shall receive ampler information from the remonstrances of the general states; and sometimes expedients of great utility, and wholesome, salutary advice might be suggested by them.

But to what end all this apparatus, this delay, and this expence? The king's privy council are sufficiently enlightened; and if any person whatever has matter of moment to lay before them, such as will assist their judgment on any occasion, he will always be sure of a good reception. The registering of edicts and laws by the high courts of justice which are invested with the king's sovereign authority, is an intercourse between majesty and the subject, which leaves us nothing more to wish for, and is entirely conformable to the primitive order of the constitution, as appears by the historical evidence we have brought to prove that the parliament, and not the general states, succeeded by one continued and uninterrupted series to the ancient assemblies of the old *French*. Can it be said that the advantages arising from the general states will counterbalance the inconveniences that would attend them? There is nothing easier than for artful and enterprising men to impose on the multitude by specious pretences. According to the natural operation of causes in producing their effects, we may fairly conclude that trouble and confusion must ever prevail in a large



large popular assembly; because in such meetings seditious and ill-designing men are more active and more busied in cabals and intrigues, than persons of sedate minds, who have the public good in view, and, in pursuit of it, employ honest and worthy means only. Secrecy, which is the very soul of government, and the surest source of success, must ever be excluded from debates of so public a nature; the greater part of those, who attend, generally bring with them no small share of ignorance, and by their prejudices are attached to some particular interest: by these the small number of the sensible and disinterested is intirely overwhelmed; for, as *Pliny* says, voices are counted, tho' they are not weighed; and nothing can be more unequal and disproportionate than the rule which gives to all an equality, and sets the voice of the most ignorant upon a level with his, whose understanding is enlarged, and is able to inform the judgments of the wise. Besides from the necessary delay of such assemblies it would frequently so fall out that the most favorable seasons of action would be entirely lost.

With regard to the credit of such general meetings, there is no doubt but they would be of very considerable weight; but at present the general states have no authority either lodged in themselves or derived from the king; and accordingly we find that they never call their acts and proceedings by the name of *Edicts*, *Arrets* or *Ordinances*; but humbly content themselves with the stile of memorials, remonstrances, addresses, and such like phrases importing the humblest submission, and void of all manner of authority.

The general states have never yet had the power of enacting any law. *Boulain Villiers*, that exhausted partizan of anarchy, never dwells on any part of our history but the most perilous and calamitous. The sessions of the general states, which were frequent in the reign of King *John*, were attended with many troubles and disasters; though in the midst of them the king took such measures, as he judged would conciliate to him the affections of his people, and prevail with them more willingly to bear the heavy subsidies he was obliged to require of them. In those junctures the general states were so far from having an authority to pass any kind of statute, that they were forced to present their requests separately on many occasions; and when these assemblies were again dissolved, the

king very often gave his letters of ratification to those in particular, who had deliberated on the subject of the addresses.

The states that were assembled at *Paris* in 1356, when our king *John* was prisoner in *England*, were highly turbulent: but notwithstanding the busy spirit that reigned among them, they never presumed to order any thing out of their own heads. It is true that they made many exorbitant demands of the Dauphin *Charles*, who was then Lieut. Gen. of the kingdom. But who would ever think of citing any authority or example for a free government from times so overcast with danger and distress? Throughout the kingdom every thing was desolate: peasants were up in arms to exterminate the nobility, and practised the most horrible cruelties; insomuch that it became necessary to knock them down like wild beasts, wherever they were *Marcel*, the provost of the merchants in *Paris*, forbid the coinage of money ordered by the Dauphin and his council. We read in father *Daniel*, that in the year 1358, the same person invested the Dauphin in his palace, with two or three thousand men in arms; (the greater part of them tradespeople) and with a select body of the most determined he bolted into the apartment of the Dauphin, and then, "Sir, (says he) don't be surprized at what I am going to do, it is for the public good." Which having spoke he made a sign to his followers, who instantly sword in hand seized *Robert Clermont* Marshal of *France* and *John Conflans* Marshal of *Champagne*, and in the sight, nay, at the very feet of the Dauphin, put them both to death. The Dauphin, destitute of aid, asked the provost if they had any design upon his person, "No, Sir, (replied *Marcel*) but "to secure yourself the better take my cap." The prince did so, and gave his own to the provost, who had the insolence to wear it that whole day. In a few hours afterwards he went so far as to send the Dauphin a quantity of red and blue stuff to make himself a cap resembling those worn by the common people of *Paris*, and to distribute others among all his courtiers. This was actually carried into execution, and all the officers of the respective chambers were obliged to do the same, for fear of being insulted by the populace.

The provost *Marcel*, some time after this, had his head split in two with a hatchet, as he was going to change the guard at one of the gates of *Paris*, in order  
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to deliver up the city to *Charles the Bad*, King of *Navarre*; thus died this monster of iniquity by a stroke much too gentle for his horrid crimes. The manner which *Froissard* makes use of in speaking of the general states in 1356, of the regulations they made concerning money matters, of the authority they usurped in deposing officers, of the council they formed consisting of thirty-six persons from the three states; the stile, I say, of *Froissard* in speaking of these matters, gives us plainly to understand that the captivity of *John*, the calamities of the kingdom, and the necessity for supplies eclipsed, for a time, that supreme authority, which is the source of happiness, tranquillity, and national strength: the people however soon began to be tired of this usurpation of the states. According to the testimony of the same historian, the nobles and prelates were soon harassed out of all patience by the edicts and statutes of the three states; and the Dauphin afterwards declared that his embarrassed situation, made him out of meer necessity, and to avoid greater confusion, submit to the assumed power of the states; but that he should never have done it, had he not hoped for happier times, when he should be able to cancel and annul all their decrees and proceedings against his will and pleasure.

In the reign of *Henry III.* the general states endeavoured to retrench the regal authority, which was then in a weak and prostrate condition: had they been able to have established any kind of right, at that time, upon the ruins of sovereignty, they would undoubtedly have been able to support it, in the same manner that our preachers were authorised to declaim against passive obedience, and to assert that the people may oppose their sovereign sword in hand and invest his palace. But the ineffectual attempts of the states to arrogate a power not inherent in them, all rise into stronger proofs that they have no authority vested originally in themselves.

In the year 1578 at a general assembly held at *Blois*, they made a most extraordinary proposal to *Henry III.* they were hardy enough to desire that their deliberations should be published, without waiting for the ratification of the king, the slowness of whose councils, they said, and the specious amendments made to their bills prevented many useful and salutary effects from accruing to the public. Thus instead of being contented that the deputies from provinces and cities should report

the sense of their constituents and wait his majesty's determination upon their addresses: they had the modesty to desire that their memorials should for the future be received as decrees, and published as such without being either controled or ratified by the privy-council. In other words they requested the king to give up his supreme authority and the whole legislative power to them. An insolent attempt inspired in the factious cabals of a few conspirators, who endeavoured to sap the foundations of our Monarchy; that their crimes might find an impunity in the general anarchy and confusion. These demands were rejected as they deserved; from whence we may derive another proof that there never was any authority inherent in the three states, since they now endeavoured to create a new power for themselves, which before had never any real existence.

Thus far the *French* author of a work, intitled, *Traité de l'Opinion, ou, Memoires pour servir à l'Histoire de l'esprit humain*; 'A Treatise of Opinions calculated to be subservient to the History of the human Mind:' A performance of high reputation, which deserves to be translated into *English* for the sake of those who have at present no access to so valuable a work. The reader will observe that the author entertains very high ideas of the *French* monarchy, and struggles hard by a refined species of reasoning to assert an imaginary liberty in the constitution of his country. Should the king of *France* exert his prerogative, and admit no law but his own will, it is but a poor consolation that the tyranny can only subsist during his life, and that then things must return into their former channel. However the parliament of *Paris* appears to be a noble barrier between the king and the people, to hinder the former from breaking down the constitution, and the latter from encroaching on the prerogative: and tho' the absolute power of a *French* monarch may compel his parliament in the end to register his edicts, &c. yet their opposition, spirited as it often is, still serves to put the king on his guard how he proceeds to extremities, because if he tramples on the rights of his parliament, his reign will become odious in the eyes of his subjects, and a *Ravaillac*, or a *d'Amien* will be sure to start forth upon him in an unguarded hour. We cannot dismiss this article, without expressing our satisfaction at the difference between the *British* constitution and the refined idea the  
above



## *E. of Derby's Letter compared with Longinus's to Aurelian. 111*

above cited *French* writer has laboured to give his readers. With us the several powers of the different branches of government are fully understood: the prerogative is settled, and the privileges of the Lords and Commons sufficiently ascertained: an arbitrary power is not vested in any one of them, and yet each has a due degree of strength to control the others, and from the just balance of all three arises that harmony of the state, which we call *LIBERTY*, and which is certainly the most *INVALUABLE BLESSING* any nation can derive from heaven.

**W**E think it will not be unentertaining to our readers, if we lay before them an extract from antient history, that they may have an opportunity of opposing to it the behaviour of a celebrated modern: When *Aurelian* besieged queen *Zenobia* in *Palmyra*, 'His army was daily weakened and dispirited (says Mr. Smith, in his life of *Longinus*) by the gallant resistance of the *Palmyrenians*, and his own life sometimes in danger. Tired at last with the obstinacy of the besieged, and almost worn out by continued fatigues, he sent *Zenobia* a written summons to surrender, as if his words could strike terror into her, whom, by force of arms, he was unable to subdue.'

*AURELIAN*, Emperor of the *Roman* world, and Recoverer of the East, to *ZENOBI*A and her Adherents.

**W**H<sup>Y</sup> am I forced to command what you ought voluntarily to have done already? I charge you to surrender, and thereby avoid the certain penalty of death, which otherwise attends you. You, *Zenobia*, shall spend the remainder of your life, where I, by the advice of the most honourable senate, shall think proper to place you: your jewels, your silver, your gold, your finest apparel, your horses, and your camels, you shall resign to the disposal of the *Romans*, in order to preserve the *Palmyreneans*, from being divested of all their former privileges.

*Zenobia* not in the least affrighted by the menace, nor soothed by the cruel promise of a life in exile and obscurity, resolved by her answer to convince *Aurelian*, that he should find the stoutest resistance from her, whom he thought to frighten into compliance. This answer was drawn

up by *Longinus* in a spirit peculiar to himself, and worthy of his mistress.

*ZENOBI*A, Queen of the East, to the Emperor *AURELIAN*.

**N**EVER was such an unreasonable demand proposed, or such rigorous terms offered by any, but yourself. Remember, *Aurelian*, that in war whatever is done, should be done by valour. You imperiously command me to surrender; but can you forget that *Cleopatra* chose rather to die with the title of Queen, than to live in any inferior dignity? We expect succours from *Persia*, the *Saracens* are arming in our cause; even the *Syrian Banditti* have already defeated your army. Judge what you are to expect from a conjunction of these forces. You shall be compelled to abate that pride, with which, as if you were absolute lord of the universe, you command me to become your captive.

To this passage from antient history we beg our readers will compare the following fact, which happened in our own country. The matter stands as followeth;

After prince *Rupert* left *Lancashire*, the earl of *Derby*, leaving his house at *Lathom* to the care of colonel *Rawsthorne*, returned to the *Isle of Man* (his presence being still very necessary there to keep that island in order) and took his lady and children with him: but his children, it seems, were soon after perfidiously seized and made close prisoners, and he himself tempted with the promise of a peaceable enjoyment of his whole estate, in case he should deliver up that island: but he gallantly refused to comply. We have already seen a letter written by *Longinus*, author of the treatise on the sublime. It will be no incurious piece of criticism to examine the following letter of the earl, and to determine whether it does not carry with it a sublimer spirit than the much admired letter of that towering genius, who was then *Zenobia's* secretary, and who afterwards suffered death for the same.

The Earl of *DERBY's* Letter to Commissary Gen. *IRETON*.

**I** Received your Letter with indignation, and with scorn I return you this answer; that I cannot but wonder whence you should gather any hopes from me, that I should, like you, prove treacherous to my sovereign: since you cannot be insensible of my former actings in his late majesty's service:  
from

from which principles of loyalty I am no whit departed.

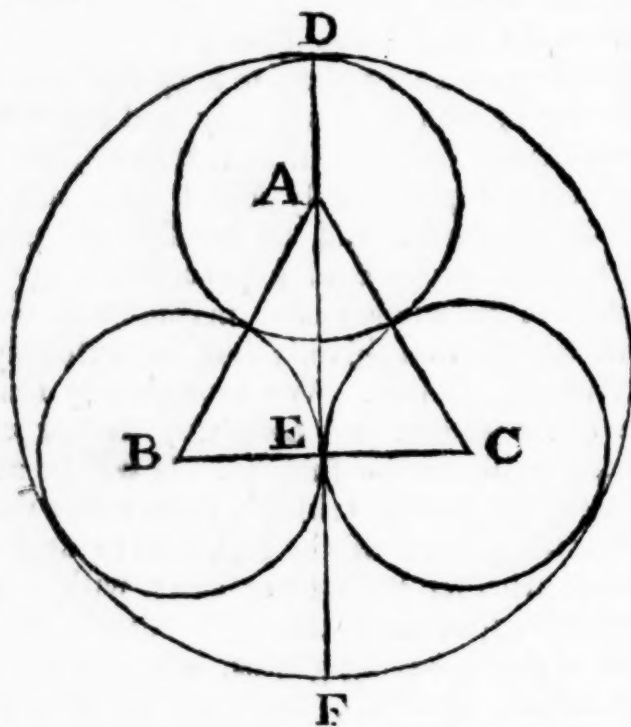
I scorn your proffers; I disdain your favour; I abhor your treason, and am so far from delivering up this island to your advantage, that I will keep it to the utmost of my power to your destruction. Take this your final answer, and forbear any further solicitations. For if you trouble me with any more messages on this occasion, I will burn the paper, and hang the bearer. This is the immutable resolution, and shall be the undoubted practice, of him who accounts it his chief glory to be,

His Majesty's most Loyal,  
And most obedient Subject,  
DERBY.

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*A Mathematical Question.*

**T**HERE is a circle whose diameter DF is 20, in which are made three other circles as large as possible; as in the figure. It is required to find the diameter of one of the lesser circles, or which is the same thing one of the sides of the equilateral triangle ABC.




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TO THE AUTHORS.

GENTLEMEN,

I Thought the following would entertain your Readers, if you are of the same opinion, and can find room for it, I hope to see it in your work. I am,

Gentlemen,

Your hearty Wellwisher,

H.

*A Description of the Grotto of Antiparos.*

**A**NTIPAROS is one of the smallest islands of the *Levant*; has but a single village on it, and very few inhabitants: it is one continued mass of stone, but covered two or three feet deep, and very rich in vegetables. In this island is the famous grotto, known from the earliest times, and celebrated down to these. I heard so much of it that I was determined to go down; but I confess that I often repented my curiosity, and often gave myself for lost. I am apt to suspect no body will follow my example, and that my account will be the last that ever will be given from personal observation.

We were led about four miles from the town to the place: the opening into it is by a vast cavern formed into a kind of natural arch at the entrance; this opens in the solid rock, and its roof and sides are rough and craggy. There are some pillars the work of nature, not of art, which divide this entrance into two parts; on the largest of these there is the remains of an inscription; it is very antient and consists only of some proper names. The *Greeks*, who at present inhabit the island, have a tradition that they are the names of the conspirators against *Alexander the Great*, who retired hither as to a place of the greatest security that could be found; but there is nothing to countenance this supposition.

The descent into the cavern is by a sloping walk that begins between two pillars on the right hand. 'Tis but a gentle declivity at first; but afterwards it become much more steep. We were now at the farther part of the cavern, and our guides lighted their torches, and pointed to an opening that led to the recesses of the grotto. They were in no humour to go down before us. I was obliged to walk in first with a flambeau in my hand, and a fellow with another just behind me; after him followed three more; and there were still two others behind, who were to keep at a little distance, to be ready in case of accidents.

We had not walked far along this narrow alley, which was too low to admit our standing upright, when I saw before me a strong iron staple driven into the rock; the guides, if I may so call the people who went behind, not before us, had told me of this, and one of them had now the courage to come forward, and fasten a rope



a rope he had brought for that purpose to the staple. I had some difficulty to persuade him to make the first descent into a frightful abyss, which was now immediately before us; I was the second that descended; we slid down by means of the rope, and I found myself on a level floor with walls of rough rock all about me, and a vast arched roof above. There had been nothing particular in the sound of my guide's voice from below: but that of those who answered me from above, was echoed to us in thunder. When we were all landed, a gratuity, which I gave the bold fellow who descended first, encouraged him to precede us again; he turned to the right, and led us, after a few paces, to the brink of another precipice. This was less steep, but much deeper than the former. Our guide placed himself on his breech and with his torch held up in both hands, slid down with a frightful rapidity; we followed him, and I hoped we were now at the bottom. Alas! what an imagination! We had leisure here to breathe again, and there was something in the perfect stillness of the place that appeared awful, and yet pleasing: it was a frightful consideration to think how far we were out of the reach of day; but our torches and flambeaus burnt well, and all about us was sufficiently enlightened: the air was not at all close or disagreeable as if confined, but warm and pleasant; and so perfectly out of the reach of all interruption, we had opportunities of examining very favorably all about us.

The rocks at the sides of the cavern in which we now stood, were in general of a kind of porphyry, with a great deal of purple in it; a stone very frequent in these islands, and which would certainly be very beautiful if cut: the rough and prominent edges in several parts of these, were at once terrible and beautiful. The roof was out of the reach of the eye, at least the light of the flambeaux did not reach it with strength sufficient to give us any distinct view of it. The floor or pavement was of a stone quite different from the sides, a rough and soft grey flag stone like those of some parts of *Yorkshire*, which they use in building; and in this there were lodged a vast number of petrified shells, *cornua ammonis*, & *conchae anominae*, which stood up above the level, and made it very disagreeable to the feet.

From this place our conductor led us to the brink of another precipice, not deep but horribly steep; he in a moment flung

himself down this, and then turned a ladder, which hung down on one side, and thrusting it up within the reach of our feet, held the bottom steady while we descended by it; I cannot remember any thing equal to the terror I conceived at letting myself down with my breast to the rock, and hanging by my hands above, to get my feet to the top round of this ladder. From hence I descended with less pain but it was a terrible prospect: from the left hand to see precipices and opening caverns ready to swallow any one up, who should have the least slip with the foot: from the plain on which we found ourselves after this last descent, we were conducted along narrow and low passages, and sometimes through broader, but all the way upon the descent to a considerable distance.

Here I was in hopes we were at the end of our expedition; but no such matter: our guide, who had been once before down, crept with trembling feet before us, and warned us of a precipice more terrible than any of the former; this was no way to be descended but by means of a ladder, that was brought on purpose by our guides, and unfortunately it was not quite so long as it should have been. We had great difficulty to let the fellow down by a rope, and when he had fixed the ladder, we had the same difficulty as before to get to the first round. From the bottom of this cavern, which was not rock like the rest, but earth, and somewhat moist, proceeded to another declivity too deep for our ladder; but not so steep as to have absolute necessity for it. We were reduced to fix our cord once again here, and one by one to slide down the rock on our backs, with a firm hold to the rope. The ridge of the rock on which we made our way in this descent terminated on the right hand very abruptly, and we could distinguish water in the depth below.

When we had got to the bottom of this last descent the danger was over, but we were not yet at the end of our expedition; we had yet a long and uncomfortable way; we crept sometimes on all fours, sometimes we slid on our backs, and in other places we were obliged to crawl on our bellies, over very ragged rocks, where there was not three feet height in the passages. All this was continued though a gradual descent. We at length arrived at a vast bed of rock, which threw itself in such manner before us as it seemed to stop all farther passage, but our guide promised better things. He left us in the care of one of his

fellows,



fellows, and taking the rest with him round the jetting rock, desired us to wait his return a few minutes. He took that opportunity to enlighten the grotto, at the very entrance of which we now were: they had tied flambeaux to many parts of the rock, that stood out beyond the rest, and had fixed several on the floor: these were all blazing when he led us in.

The most uncomfortable part of the expedition had been that we had lost of all suffered, left only with one guide, enlightened only by one flambeau, in a narrow passage, and with a rock before us; but from this the change was beyond description amazing. He led us into the grotto, the opening of which is behind the prominent rock, the light of eight flambeaux in full blaze was at first too much for the eyes; the splendor of the whole place almost intolerable. We found ourselves in a cavern the most amazing, and at the same time the most beautiful that could be conceived.

The grotto is a vast vault, the roof arched and irregular, the pavement in some places very even, and in others rough enough; the sides, which in some places form sweeps of circles, are in some of the naked rock, but in others they are covered with an infinite variety of incrustations. The height of the roof is about 80 feet, the length of the grotto about 300, and its breadth nearly as much: the greatest depth is towards the middle, but not exactly in the centre. We were now between 900 and a 1000 feet from the surface of the ground where we came in; nor is this the depth of the descent, our guides told us that the passages continued between 7 and 800 hundred feet deeper; but this we took their words for, as we suppose, they had taken that of some others; for it is not probable that any body went farther than this place.

I know not where to begin describing it; among such variety of splendor what can deserve first notice? The dropstones hanging like icicles from the roof of caverns in the mines, and in the *Æolian* hills, the incrustations of different kinds on their sides, and masses of fine spar at the bottom; those who have not seen the grotto of *Antiparos* may think beautiful: but it is here they are found in a perfection that makes every thing elsewhere appear contemptible. The matter which forms these incrustations in other places is often very clear and bright; but it is no where so pure as in this; it is here perfect bright

crystal, and the surface of the cavern, roof, floor, and sides, are covered with it. You will think this alone must have been fine; but the form into which it was thrown exceeds the materials. And think what must be the splendor of an arch thus covered, and thus illuminated? the light of the flambeaux was reflected from above, from below, and from all sides; and as it was thrown back from angle to angle among the ornaments of the roof and sides, gave all the colours of the rain-bow.

It was long that the eye was lost in such a complicated blaze of splendor, before I could direct it to any particular object; at length I began to view the roof, hung with pendant gems as it appeared; in these caverns there is always an ouzing of water from the roof, or there are vapours ascending from below, which in the hollows are condensed into a water; either the one or the other of them contains at all times the particles of this crystalline matter. The quantity of water is small and its course slow; it hangs and trickles in drops from the top, or it runs in the same slow stream along the side: in either case it leaves behind it that crystalline matter which it had contained, and spreads a little glazing on either wall, or forms the rudiment of a stony icicle from the roof: every following drop extends the icicle, or enlarges the glazing, and, in length of time, covers the wall, and forms a thousands inverted pyramids from the roof. Nor is this all, what drops fall from the top still contain a little of the crystalline matter, though it had left the greater part above, and this remainder separates from it there. By this means is formed the plain glazing of the floor, where the drops fall faster; where they succeed one another more slowly there are formed congeries of this pure stony matter, of various forms and shapes, and in an infinite variety. This is the general system of the incrustations and ornaments of grottos; and this of *Antiparos*, as one of the largest and deepest in the world, contains them in the greatest perfection.

We entered among a grove of crystal trees; the floor was in general of a smooth and glossy spar, so *M.* called it, but I call it crystal, of which it has all the appearances. We walked on this bright pavement in a kind of serpentine meander, among shrubs and taller masses of this crystal, rising from the common pavement with large and thick stones, and spreading out into heads



heads and tufts of branches. Some of these were eight or ten feet high, the generality between two and five feet. They were all of the same materials with the floor; and what added vastly to their beauty, as well as their resemblance of trees, was, that they were not smooth on the surface, but covered all over with little shining points: these, when examined, appeared to be pyramids of the same matter. They were in general about a fifth of an inch high, and of a triangular figure: their bases, which grew upon the mass, stood pretty close to one another; but their tops distinct. The breaking of the light from the flambeaus among these innumerable prominences, and all of them angular, had a very fine effect. At some distance from the entrance we came up to a pillar of crystal of seven feet in height, and more than a foot in diameter. This rises immediately from the floor, and is of equal thickness to the top: its surface is very glossy, and of a pure and perfect lustre. About this there stand three or four others, of four feet high and a proportionate thickness: one of these has been broken and the piece lies by it. Our guide desired us to examine the stump at its top, and shewed us that it was like that of a tree which had been cut off. They bid us remark the heart, and the several circles of the softer wood round it. They told us, this was exactly the same as in the growing of trees, and assured us, that these trees of crystal grew from the floor in the same manner. This is a system worthy the intellects of peasants; but we, who knew that those columns, like the rest of the ornaments of the floor, are formed by matter left from drops of water following one another in long succession, saw a better reason, for the whole being composed of crusts one over another. All the stalactites or stony icicles of the top, and even the covering of the sides, is composed of a number of crusts laid over one another in the same manner.—On the other parts of the floor, we saw little hillocks of crystal made in the same manner; and in some of the hollower parts there lay a parcel of round stones as white as snow and of the bigness of musket bullets. These, when broken, were composed of crusts laid over one another just in the manner of all the other concretions, and in the center of one of them we found a drop of water.—The sides of the Grotto next came into consideration; and what a variety of beauties did they afford! In some

places the plain rock is covered with a vast sheet of this crystal, like a cake of ice, spread evenly over it, and of the thickness of an inch or two; its surface perfectly smooth, and every where following the shape of a rock. In other places, this sheet of crystal is variegated with a strange quantity of irregular and modulated figures all over its surface. These were in some spots more raised, in others less; but their meanders very beautiful. In other parts where the walls were so prominent that drops from the roof could reach them, there grew from their surface, in the same manner as from the floor, shrubs of crystal; but these were in general lower, and more spreading than the floor. We saw a great number, of about a foot and half in height, rising from each a single stone, thick and irregular, and spreading into a globular head, of a diameter almost equal to their height. No part of the grotto appeared more beautiful than the sides where these were more frequent. They were some of them pure and colourless, others white as snow, and all of them covered over the whole surface with those little pyramids I have mentioned before.—This however is little to the principal beauty of the sides. In some places the sheet of crystal, instead of clinging immediately to the wall or rock, stood out at a distance from it, forming a kind of curtain of pure pellucid matter. This was an appearance at once singular and elegant, beyond all things of the kind that I had seen or read of. These curtains of crystal were ten or twelve feet in breadth, and in height often twenty or more: they took their origin from some part of the sweep of the arch, and hung to the floor. They usually were contiguous to the wall at one edge, and at a considerable distance at the other, so that they formed a kind of closets or apartments within which were very beautiful, and led an aspect unlike all things in the world. These curtains of crystals were not plain, but folded and plaited, and their undulations added not a little to their beauty. If in any parts they projected out so far as to take more of the falling drops, they were there covered with little pyramids of crystal, such as those of the trees and shrubs on the floor; but all the rest of the expanse of the smooth and glossy.

It yet remains that I describe the roof of this wonderful place; but there are not terms in language to express such a

variety of objects which those who have hitherto used language have never seen, In some parts their diverged rays of pure and glossy crystal, in the manner of a star, from a lucid center stretching themselves to two or three yards diameter; in another, clusters like vast bunches of grapes hung down; and from others there were continued festoons, loose in the middle, but fixed at either end, and formed of a vast variety of representations of foliage, fruits and flowers. There is a rudeness in all those that would, when ever one saw them, speak them the absolute work of nature; but art would be proud to imitate them.

At every little space between these there hung the stalactites, or stony icicles, as they are called, in a surprising number, but of a magnitude much more surprising. Some of these have doubtless been many hundred years in forming, and they are from ten to twenty or thirty feet in length. One hangs nearly from the center of the grotto, which must be considerably more than that; 'tis eight or nine feet longer than all the others, and at the base seems five or six feet in diameter. 'Tis a cone in form, and its point tolerably fine. Could a thing of this kind be got off whole, and conveyed into Europe without injury, what would the virtuosi say of it? A cone of this bigness of pure crystal would be a more pompous curiosity than all their collections.

At the points of many of these, and on some other protuberances on the grotto, we saw single drops of a perfectly pellucid water hanging: this was what had left its crystal on their sides, and had been adding its little portion of substance to their bulk.

Nearly under the center of the arch there is a large pyramid of natural congelations of the shrubby kind of those already mentioned. 'Tis the finest cluster on the whole floor, and is ornamented with a parcel of festoons and cones from the over-hanging part of the roof, which make a kind of attic story to it. Behind it there is one of the natural closets curtained off from the main hollow of the grotto, and full of beautiful congelations. They call this pyramid the altar. Some of the pieces have been cut down; and upon the basis of the pyramid we read an inscription that puzzled us extremely, *Hic ipse Christus adjuvit ejus natali die media nocte celebrato*. There was a date of 1673 annexed; but not being of the Roman communion, we could by no means make out the meaning

of the words till our guide had informed us, that a French person of quality, ambassador to the porte, had caused mass to be celebrated there with great solemnity on *Christmas-day* at that time, and had spent two or three days in the grotto with a numerous company.

Whilst I was at the bottom, the thoughts of getting up again gave me pain enough, and the *Sed revocare gradum* of *Virgil*, rose up in my mind with all its terrors. However I am out, and all is well. 'Twas a horrible piece of work, and I shall have occasion to remember it, being more hurt and bruised from this single expedition than from my whole voyage, &c.

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*An authentic and circumstantial Account of the Confinement, Behaviour, and Death of Admiral Byng, as attested by the Gentlemen who were present. Lacy price 1s.*

AS the trial of Mr. Byng has ingrossed a great deal of our conversation for some months past, it may not be amiss to give a summary view of this pamphlet, which relates a number of curious anecdotes of this unhappy gentleman, who has at length paid the forfeit of his life, and fallen a sacrifice to the justice of his country.

On *Thursday* the 27th of *January*, when the Admiral was sent for on board the *St. George* to receive his sentence, he declared to some of his friends, that he expected to be reprimanded, and that he possibly might be cashiered.

Soon after he had got on board, and was in the cabin upon the quarter-deck, a member of the *Court-Martial* came out, and told one of his relations, he had the court's leave to inform him, they had found the admiral capitally guilty; in order that he might prepare him to receive the sentence. The gentleman went up to him immediately; but was so surprised, he could not tell how to inform him. The admiral observing his countenance, said to him, *What is the matter? Have they broke me?* The gentleman hesitating in his reply, with some confusion of countenance, he added, *Well, I understand—If nothing but my blood will satisfy, let them take it*. Immediately after this, he was sent for into court, where he continued to be the only man that did not appear moved, while his sentence was reading by the



the judge-advocate; and went ashore afterwards with the same air and composure that he came on board.

A gentleman afterwards endeavoured to give him consolation, by representing to him, that a *sentence without guilt could be no stain*, and that there was a great probability of a pardon. He replied, *What will that signify to me? What satisfaction can I receive from the liberty to crawl a few years longer on the earth, with the infamous load of a pardon at my back? I despise life on such terms, and would rather have them take it.*

Some days after the sentence was passed, he was conveyed on board the *Monarque*, and confined in the captain's cabin upon the quarter-deck. And as soon as the warrant for his death arrived at *Portsmouth*, all his friends who came to see him, were obliged to leave him before it was dark, and go on shore. An additional number of marine officers and marines were ordered on board that ship, and centinels were diligently placed with directions to call aloud to each other, *all is well*, every five minutes in the night: this circumstance almost totally depriving the admiral of sleep, because the centinels were mostly close to him where he lay, made him frequently say, *I did hope for leave to sleep, and apprehend I might be sufficiently guarded and taken care of, without so frequent a repetition of this noisy ceremony close to my ear.*

At length the lieutenants of the ship had orders to watch in the great cabin, relieving each other every four hours, as is customary at sea; so that there was always one of them in the cabin with him day and night, and the order to the centinels for calling out every five minutes, was then omitted.

When captain *Montague* waited upon him, to inform him the warrant from the Admiralty was come, he received the news with the same cool composure, that he had received the sentence.

The same gentleman waited upon him again, on the twenty seventh of *February*, being the day before that which was appointed for his execution, and, in admiral *Boscawen's* name, acquainted him that a respite was arrived for fourteen days. He composedly desired his compliments to admiral *Boscawen*, with thanks for his intelligence, without appearing in the smallest degree elevated, or even pleased beyond his usual. His friends, on that occasion, represented to him what had pas-

sed in the house of commons, and congratulated him on the certainty of an honourable pardon, which they imagined must follow.

He was not much elated with this, but his behaviour was uniformly composed to the last. Divine service was performed for him every morning, and the rest of the day he spent in chearful conversation, and the adjustment of family affairs.

On *Saturday* the 12th of *March*, in the evening, when his friends were going on shore as usual, he took leave of his two nephews in a tender manner, and desired they would not come on board to him again, lest any immoderate grief in them should soften him.

On *Sunday* morning Captain *Montague*, having received a warrant from Admiral *Boscawen* for his execution the next day, gave it to the marshal to read to him; which he calmly heard read over, and then remarked, with some warmth, that the place appointed by the warrant was upon the fore-castle. *Is not this*, said he, *addressing himself to his friends, putting me upon the footing of a common seaman, condemned to be shot? Is not this an indignity to my birth, to my family, and to my rank in the service? I think I have not been treated like an officer in any instance since I was disgraced, except in that of being ordered to be shot.* He appeared much disturbed at this circumstance, but on the remonstrances of his friends, he again composed himself and appeared in a little time perfectly calm.

In the forenoon he heard prayers read by the chaplain of the *Monarque*, and received the sacrament in a very decent devout manner, with some of his relations and friends.

At dinner he was chearful as usual, very politely helped his friends, and drank their healths; but did not sit long at table. He continued uneasy about the place of execution: and perceiving his friends avoided the subject, *I like to talk upon the subject*, said he, *It is not to be supposed I do not think of it; why then should it be more improper to talk of it?*

He frequently observed how the wind was, and wished it might continue westerly long enough for the members of his court-martial, who were upon the point of sailing, to be present at the time the sentence passed upon him was put in execution.

About six he ordered tea, as usual, for himself and his company; and remarking that



that his friends took notice of his easy manner and conversation, he declared it to be owing to his having no remorse for any transaction in his public character; however he might be subject to private and personal frailties. He pleaded himself with hopes that the world would not consider him as the mean despicable coward his enemies had represented him, as the court-martial had acquitted him of every thing ignominious.

In the evening his friends, desirous to be with him a little longer for the last night than had been permitted before, sent to admiral *Boscawen*, requesting that indulgence; which was granted for as long as they pleased; but he himself desired they would not exceed the hour of eight, being then about seven. He then ordered a small bowl of punch to be made; helped everyone, and taking his own glass with a little punch in it, *My friends*, said he, *here is all your healths, and God bless you all: I am pleased to find that I have some friends still, notwithstanding my misfortunes; When he had drank, and set his glass down, he added, I am to die to-morrow; and as my country requires my blood, I am ready to resign it, though I do not as yet know what my crime is.* He wished his judges had been more explicit in justice to all future officers, fearing that no admiral will be wiser from the sentence passed on him; he added, that he was supposed not to have assisted the van; but he insisted upon the merit of relieving the three disabled ships, which were indeed fired upon, but it does not appear that a single man was killed on board of them, when the enemy passed. *There is*, said the admiral, *but one witness who says they received damage at that time. May not that one witness be mistaken, who was on board the ship considerably the farthest removed from the enemy of the three, and who had dropt there out of her station, by being disabled before? And why did the enemy bear away from these ships if it was not because my division was under sail close after them, in a regular line of battle?*

The time appointed for his friends to go ashore drawing near, he got up and withdrew into the state-room with one of them at a time; and thanking each in a very pathetic manner for their acts of friendship and services, he embraced them in order to take a last farewell. But they intreating leave to pay their last respects and services to him in the morning, he consented. One of them observing the admiral softened in-

to tears upon the occasion, said to him, 'Pray, Sir, don't suffer yourself to be discomposed.' He replied, *I have not a heart of stone: I am a man, and must feel at parting with my friends; but you will not see me discomposed to-morrow.* Hereupon his friends went on shore, and one of them waited on admiral *Boscawen*, to beg that the place of execution might be changed from the fore-castle to the quarter deck; which was done accordingly.

It is remarkable, that the officers, who at twelve at night, and at four in the morning, were relieved from watching in his cabin, when they went to shew that he was in the state-room to their successors, each time found him in a profound sleep. He arose, according to his custom, early in the morning somewhat about five: and seeing the Marshal, about six, *Well*, said he, *Marschal, I think I have beat you at rising this morning.* Soon after, when he was shifting, as he did constantly every morning betimes, *Here*, said he to his valet, *take these sleeve-buttons, and wear them for my sake; yours will do to be buried with.* Having directed that he should be put into his coffin with his cloaths as he died; recollecting himself, he added, *But hold---as these buttons are gold, my giving them to you may be doubted, and you may be drawn into a scrape.*

He spent a considerable part of the morning in the state-room by himself: then came out, and sat down with the Marshal, and breakfasted composedly, as usual. His dress was a plain cloth suit, a light gray mixture, such as he had always wore after he received his order of suspension in *Gibraltar-bay*; having stripped off his uniform, which he immediately threw into the sea, as soon as he had read that order.

At nine, when his friends came on board; being informed that the quarter-deck was now the place appointed for his execution, in consideration of his rank, he was greatly pleased at it. He then spoke about an erasement in his will, which he had recollected; mentioning the sheet, the number of the line from the top, and the words erased. He then thought proper to sign a paper, specifying this particular, and three of his friends were witnesses to it. This done, the morning-service was performed by the chaplain of the *Monarque*, and the rest of the morning he spent in walking across the cabin, and conversing sometimes with one friend and sometimes with another.



He seemed resolved to receive his death uncovered, but by the remonstrances of his friends, he was at last prevailed upon and consented to have a bandage over his eyes, and to make a signal by dropping a handkerchief, though with very great reluctance: *If it must be so, said he, and you insist, it must be so.*

He then signified his intention of stripping off his coat to receive the bullets, but being told it would be more decent to make no alteration in dress; *Well then,* replied he, *if it is more decent, no alteration shall be made.*

The marines were all drawn up under arms, upon the poop, along the gangways in the waist, and on one side of the quarter-deck. On the other side of the quarter-deck was thrown a heap of sawdust, and a cushion placed upon it; and in the middle, upon the gratings, a platoon, consisting of nine marines, to whom he made a present of ten guineas, were drawn up in three lines, three in each: the two foremost lines intended to fire, had their bayonets fixed, as is customary on such occasions.

The captains of all the ships in Portsmouth harbour, and at Spithead, were ordered to attend with their boats; but lay a-breast upon their oars, without coming on board, to avoid the inconvenience of so great a crowd as that would have occasioned.

The admiral, about eleven, as he walked across the cabin, observing the crowd of boats out of one of the side cabin-windows, took his spying glass and viewed several of them; and perceiving many boats from the shore, as well as the ship-boats, and the decks, shrouds and yards of all the ships that lay near, covered with men, said he, *Curiosity is strong—it draws a great number of people together—but their curiosity will be disappointed:—where they are, they may hear, but they cannot see.*

Perceiving the marshal had his uniform and sword on, speaking softly to one of his friends, *Do you observe,* said he, *how well dressed the marshal is?* the gentleman expressing his pleasure at seeing the admiral so composed, *I find,* said Mr. Byng, *Innocence is the best foundation for firmness of mind.*

After that he walked about in the cabin for some time; inquired what time it would be high-water; remarked that the tide would not suit to carry his body ashore after dark; expressed some apprehensions, that his body might be insulted going

ashore in the day, on account of the prejudices of the people: but on being assured that no such spirit was remaining among the people at Portsmouth, he appeared very well satisfied on that head. Then taking a paper out of his pocket, he addressed himself to the marshal as follows: *Sir, these are my thoughts on this occasion: I shall give them to you, that you may authenticate them, and prevent any thing spurious being published, that might tend to defame me. I have given a copy to one of my relations.*

The paper was wrote in his own hand, and contained as follows:

*On board his Majesty's ship  
Monarque in Portsmouth  
harbour, March 14, 1757.*

*A few moments will now deliver me from the virulent persecutions and frustrate the farther malice of my enemies;—nor need I envy them a life subject to the sensations my injuries, and the injustice done me must create.—Persuaded I am, justice will be done to my reputation hereafter.—The manner and cause of raising and keeping up the popular clamour and prejudice against me, will be seen through.—I shall be considered, (as I now perceive myself) a victim, destined to divert the indignation and resentment of an injured and deluded people, from the proper objects.—My enemies themselves must now think me innocent.—Happy for me at this last moment, that I know my own innocence; and am conscious, that no part of my country's misfortunes can be owing to me.—I heartily wish the shedding my blood may contribute to the happiness and service of my country;—but cannot resign my just claim to a faithful discharge of my duty, according to the best of my judgment, and the utmost exertion of my ability, for his Majesty's honour and my country's service.—I am sorry that my endeavours were not attended with more success, and that the armament under my command proved too weak to succeed, in an expedition of such moment.—Truth has prevailed over calumny and falsehood, and justice has wiped off the ignominious stain of my supposed want of personal courage, or disaffection—my heart acquits me of these crimes,—but who can be presumptuously sure of his own judgment? If my crime is an error in judgment or differing in opinion from my judges; and if yet, the error of judgment should be on their side, — God forgive them, as I do; and may the distress of their minds, and uneasiness of their consciences which in justice to me they have represented, be relieved, and subside, as my resentment*

*sentment has done.—The supreme Judge sees all hearts and motives, and to him I must submit the justice of my cause.*

J. BYNG.

Soon after he had spoke, an officer came to the cabin-door, and in a low voice informed one of his friends the hour of twelve was drawing near. He overhearing, replied, *It is very well*; and retired into the state-room for about three minutes. In the mean time the cabin doors were thrown open, and the admiral opening the state-room door, came out with a stately pace and composed countenance: he made a bow to his friends in the cabin, and speaking to the marshal, *Come along*, said he, *my friend*; and walking out upon the quarter-deck. Then turning to the marshal, with an easy bow, he gave him the paper containing as above, saying, *Remember, Sir, what I have told you relating to this paper*; and went to the cushion and kneeled down. One of his friends attended him to the cushion, and offered to tie the bandage over his eyes; but having a white handkerchief ready folded in his hand, he replied, with a smile on his countenance, *I am obliged to you, Sir,—I thank God, I can do it myself—I think I can—I am sure I can*; and tied it behind his head himself. Then taking the gentleman by the hand, *God bless you, my friend*, said he, *don't stay longer here; they may shoot you*. The marines, in the mean time, advanced about two paces, and, as soon as the gentleman retired, presented their pieces; the first line kneeling, their bayonets about half a yard from his breast; the second stooping, and close to the first; the third line standing upright, were appointed a reserve, in case any life should remain after the two first had fired. The admiral continued upon his knees something more than a minute, appearing very composed, and to be making an ejaculation; and then dropped his handkerchief, the signal agreed upon. The platoon immediately fired; one missed, four passed through different parts of his breast, and one through his heart, and he sunk down motionless, gently falling on his side, as if still studious to preserve decency and dignity in his fall.

The spectators acknowledged his behaviour to be composed and intrepid: it is a remarkable circumstance that the *Ramillies* broke from her moorings much about the time of execution; which superstitious minds have interpreted various ways.

As soon as his body was cold, it was put into his coffin, and sent on shore to the dock-yard in the evening; from whence it has been since removed to the family burying place at *South-hill* in *Bedfordshire*. On his coffin was the following plain inscription;

*The Hon. JOHN BYNG Esq;  
died March 14, 1757.*

*Memoirs of the Marquis of Torcy Secretary of State to Lewis the XIV. Vailant, price 10s.*

THIS is, perhaps, the most interesting book that has appeared for some time past. We are not here presented with a collection of facts unauthenticated; but have the work of a great minister to a mighty and illustrious monarch, who shook all *Europe* with his arms. The Marquis of *Torcy* gives us an history of negotiations, not related at second hand, but confirmed by his own concerns in those important transactions. It were much to be wished, that the ministers of state in our own country would follow the example of the *French* statesmen in this particular: We should then have records of all secret negotiations, and we should better know the secret springs of action in our all national affairs. Compositions of this sort would be subservient to the historian, and the characters of eminent men would not be drawn with random strokes, but we should be able to trace them with more certainty; the secrets of the cabinet would be unfolded to us; and the several accusations which different parties bring against each other, would by these means be either confirmed or refuted. But borough-jobbing, intriguing, caballing, and card-playing, ingross too much of our statesmen's time to permit such performances to come from their hands.

The Marquis of *Torcy* divides his work into four parts. In the first, he gives the history of the testament of *Charles* the II. king of *Spain*, and all the consequences attendant thereon. In the second part, we have a narrative of all the conferences at the *Hague* and other places towards a pacification; in which we see, as is observed by the translator, with what haughtiness two *Dutch* Burgo-masters behaved towards a potent monarch, who some years before had been the error of *Europe*, and par-



particularly of the united provinces. All these matters the author relates in a clear, neat and concise style: there are few or no touches of self-approbation: *De Torcy* is perhaps the first *French* memorialist who may be said to have modesty for his distinguishing characteristic: flashes of vanity do not break out from him, as they do from the generality of his countrymen. Even *Sully* is strongly tinged with it. But *De Torcy* is seldom or never pointed out as the principal figure in the Tableau. He seems to view himself amidst the princes and powers of *Europe* in the same casual manner that *Aeneas* sees himself in the paintings of the wars of *Troy* in the temple founded by *Dido*.

*Se quoque principibus permistum agnovit  
Achivis.* VIRG.

He does not seem to relate any incident for the sake of adorning his own name; but generally ushers himself in with the same modesty and reserve that *Julius Cæsar* speaks of himself. Throughout *Rouille's* negotiations for a peace it appears how all the sources of internal strength were exhausted in *France*, and to what a low ebb their affairs were reduced. The obstacles thrown in the way by the *Dutch* in order to prevent a pacification are placed in a clear and strong light. In the letter to *Rouille* it appears, that the king was reduced to the utmost necessity of a compromise, and it is a remarkable anecdote, that when it was read in council, his majesty wrote with his own hand, 'I approve of what is contained in this letter, and my will is, that it shall be executed by *Torcy*.' Accordingly in two days time, *De Torcy* sets out for the *Hague*. Here the scene of action grows warmer, so eminent a person being concerned; and it is still carried to a higher crisis by the arrival of prince *Eugene* and the Duke of *Marlborough*. *De Torcy* draws the characters of those who are engaged with conciseness and great appearance of integrity. *Heinsius* minister to the prince of *Orange* is thus portrayed.

'He was thoroughly acquainted with public affairs, to which he had been trained from his youth, and was intimately connected with prince *Eugene* and the duke of *Marlborough*; these three formed their projects in concert, regulated the time for putting them into execution, directed the ways and means, and were in some measure the soul of the confederacy. But the pensionary was neither charged with

'desiring to protract the war because of the weight it gave him in the republic; nor with any view of personal interest. His external appearance was simple; there was no show of pomp in his house; his family consisting only of a secretary, a coachman, one footman, and one maid-servant; so that he was far from making the figure of a first minister. His appointments from the republic were four and twenty thousand florins, the greatest part as keeper of the seals.

'His address was cold, but had nothing forbidding: his conversation was polite; and he seldom grew warm in dispute.

In the sequel it appears that the duke of *Marlborough* had very great influence at the *Hague*; and that the whole matter of the pacification seemed to depend on him alone. The particulars of *de Torcy's* conference with the duke are worthy our attention: "As soon as the duke of *Marlborough*, says *de Torcy* in his letter to the king of *France*, arrived, I desired M. *Pettekum* to ask him when I might wait on him. After he had consulted the pensionary, and made a number of excuses and compliments for the liberty he took in appointing me an hour, and not paying the first visit, I went to him after dinner. Were I to relate all the protestations he made, of his profound respect and attachment to your majesty, and of the desire he has of one day meriting your protection, I should fill my letter with things less essential, than those I am going to mention. His speeches are florid. I observed in what he said to me, a great deal of art in naming the duke of *Berwick* and the marquis of *Alegre*. I availed myself, Sir, of this circumstance, to make him sensible in the course of our conversation, that I was not ignorant of the particulars of their correspondence with him, and that your sentiments were not changed. He blushed and proceeded to the proposals of peace. The pensionary had informed him in the morning of every thing that had passed since his departure from *London*. I thought that he had nothing to demand for *England*, after being informed of the offers I had made in regard to *Dunkirk*; but he told me he had express orders from princess *Anne*, to insist particularly on the restitution of *Newfoundland*; since this matter so deeply interested the whole nation, that it would

R

"be

"be doing a particular pleasure to his  
"mistress to settle it as a preliminary ar-  
"ticle.

"I confessed, that your majesty's in-  
"structions on this head were wanting, but  
"that I was verily persuaded it was a mat-  
"ter that would not hinder the peace,  
"and that it might be easily regulated,  
"either by exchanges, or by mutual resti-  
"tutions on the part of *England*. He  
"has brought lord *Townshend* with him,  
"who is appointed to assist on the part  
"of *England* at the negotiations of  
"peace.

"Lord *Marlborough* told me that we  
"should enter into further particulars with  
"Townshend, in regard to the affair of  
"Newfoundland. He added, that this  
"lord had orders concerning the king of  
"England, whom he stiled the prince of  
"Wales. He expressed a strong desire of  
"being in a capacity to serve him, as  
"the son of a king, for whom, he told  
"me afterwards, he would have spilt the  
"last drop of his blood. That he be-  
"lieved it was his interest to remove out  
"of *France*; and when I asked him to  
"what country he should retire, and in  
"what manner he was to subsist, he agreed  
"in respect to the first article, that this  
"prince should be at liberty to fix his re-  
"sidence wherever he chose; should en-  
"joy perfect security; and be his own  
"master to go wherever he judged proper.

"The article of his subsistence met with  
"greater obstacles. I proposed to him  
"the expedient of the queen's dowry. He  
"said that the laws of *England* rendered  
"the payment of that sum extremely dif-  
"ficult; however he begged of me to in-  
"sist strenuously on this article, when my  
"lord *Townshend* and he came to speak  
"to me about it in the conferences. This  
"lord, said he, is a kind of inspector over  
"me, though he is a very honest man,  
"who has been chosen through my means  
"and of the whig party: before him I  
"must speak like an obstinate *Englishman*:  
"but I wish with all my heart I was able  
"to serve the prince of *Wales*, and that  
"your solicitations afforded me an op-  
"portunity of doing it.

"He told me a great many things of  
"that kind in confidence, and all to cor-  
"roborate the reasons he had for rejecting  
"my proposal. With this same air of  
"confidence he expatiated on the folly of  
"his nation, so extravagant a folly that  
"they set no bounds to their ideas, that

"they believe it is their interest, and in  
"their power to demolish *France*; though  
"prudent people, but who are not at the  
"helm of affairs, are convinced as well  
"as myself, that it is time to conclude a  
"good peace.

"After such speeches, I had no room,  
"Sir, to expect much complaisance on his  
"side, in regard to an equivalent for the  
"king of *Spain*; so that I disputed in vain  
"to induce him to consent to it. I pro-  
"posed successively *Naples*, and after-  
"wards *Sicily*. I repeated all the same  
"reasons so often mentioned to the pen-  
"sionary, and to the deputies of this re-  
"public.

In the remaining part of this work,  
we have a further account of the advances  
made by *France* to obtain a peace, and  
how these were all frustrated by *Heinsius*,  
Prince *Eugene*, and the Duke of *Marlbo-*  
*rough*. The melancholy situation of  
*France* appears throughout these negotia-  
tions, and the following extracts will con-  
vince how much *Lewis* desired a peace,  
what great concessions he offered, by whom  
the pacification was opposed, and how  
much *England* was then exalted above the  
abject condition of her natural enemy.

"The negotiation being thus broke off,  
"the king sent orders to his plenipoten-  
"tiaries, upon receiving their account of  
"the last conference, to write word to the  
"pensionary, that it was needless to allow  
"them fifteen days, for receiving further  
"instructions from his majesty; that he  
"had but too fully proved his consent to  
"every condition in his power, for pro-  
"moting the peace; but he could not en-  
"gage to execute what was absolutely out  
"of his power; that the allies by insisting  
"on such terms shewed they had no other  
"view than to break off all negotiation; that  
"his majesty confiding in the protection of  
"the God of armies, who can, whenever  
"he pleases, pull down those whom un-  
"expected prosperity has lifted up, would  
"leave all *Europe*, not excepting even the  
"people of *Holland* and *England*, to judge  
"who were the cause of the continuance  
"of so long and bloody a war; that to  
"determine which side really delighted in  
"war, it would be sufficient to consider  
"the advances made by his majesty, the  
"consent he had given to the most cruel  
"conditions, the engagements he offer-  
"ed to take upon him for securing the  
"peace, and removing the unjust suspi-  
"cions of his enemies; afterwards to re-  
"flect



‘ fleet on the obstinacy of their ministers  
 ‘ in concealing the intentions of their mas-  
 ‘ ters, and on the care they had al-  
 ‘ ways taken care to inwrap what little  
 ‘ they did discover with such a cloud of  
 ‘ words, that it was impossible to lay any  
 ‘ stress upon their studied speeches: so  
 ‘ that it manifestly appeared that their  
 ‘ only aim was to reserve pretexts to  
 ‘ themselves for trumping up new de-  
 ‘ mands, as fast as their former preten-  
 ‘ sions were granted, and to shuffle and  
 ‘ cut either according to the events  
 ‘ of the war, or to the concessions which  
 ‘ the king should make for the obtaining  
 ‘ of peace.’

The third part of this work will be found most interesting to an *English* reader, because the business is brought more home to our own bosoms, and the administration of affairs at home is intrusted to a new ministry. The causes of this change *de Torcy* explains somewhat largely, and he has not incuriously traced the rise and progress of the two parties, *viz.* Whig and Tory, which at that time distracted the nation.

‘ It would be of no use (says the Mar-  
 ‘ quis) to inquire into the obscure origi-  
 ‘ nal of these terms. Sufficient it is to  
 ‘ observe, that by the name of Tories were  
 ‘ understood the zealous defenders of the  
 ‘ church of *England*, in opposition not  
 ‘ only to the *Roman Catholics*, but to the  
 ‘ different sects tolerated in *England*, and  
 ‘ included under the name of *Non-con-*  
 ‘ *formists*. They were also considered as  
 ‘ the supporters of passive obedience to  
 ‘ kings, and of arbitrary power.

‘ On the contrary, the Whigs, whose  
 ‘ religion, if they have any, is *Presbyterian*,  
 ‘ were inclined to a republican govern-  
 ‘ ment, and utter enemies of the unlimited  
 ‘ authority of princes. They had had  
 ‘ the principal share in the late revolution;  
 ‘ and the prince of *Orange* whom they  
 ‘ had raised to the throne, entrusted them  
 ‘ with the chief employments, so that  
 ‘ the majority of the members of parlia-  
 ‘ ment being Whigs, affairs were sure to  
 ‘ be under the direction of that party.

‘ The whigs had preserved their supe-  
 ‘ riority even in queen *Anne*’s reign; and  
 ‘ the duke of *Marlborough*, solicitous after  
 ‘ his own aggrandizement, had deserted  
 ‘ the tories to embrace the party of  
 ‘ the whigs.

‘ Of this party was the earl of *Godol-*  
 ‘ *phin*, lord treasurer of *England*, whom

‘ the ties of interest, and of marriage, had  
 ‘ closely connected with *Marlborough*.  
 ‘ One commanded the army with great re-  
 ‘ putation as a general; and the other had  
 ‘ as high a character in the administrati-  
 ‘ on of the revenue. Thus they were a sup-  
 ‘ port to each other, so that it was diffi-  
 ‘ cult to attack them with any hopes of  
 ‘ success. The only way the Tories could  
 ‘ think of weakening their antagonists was  
 ‘ to deprive them of the confidence of the  
 ‘ queen; when they had done that, to  
 ‘ prevail on her majesty to dissolve the  
 ‘ parliament, in which the whigs had  
 ‘ so great a majority, and to call a new  
 ‘ one.

‘ Some high church preachers, among  
 ‘ whom *Dr Sacheverel* had the lead, either  
 ‘ stirred up by others, or of their own ac-  
 ‘ cord, gave the first blow by their ser-  
 ‘ mons.’

‘ Though *Sacheverel* had attacked *Q*  
 ‘ *Anne*’s right to the crown, and her ad-  
 ‘ ministration, yet she was not so much of-  
 ‘ fended at his sermons, as at the vio-  
 ‘ lence of the whigs, in condemning the  
 ‘ opposite doctrine, which inculcates the  
 ‘ obedience due from subjects to their so-  
 ‘ vereign. She perceived the danger to  
 ‘ which she had been hitherto exposed, in  
 ‘ sharing her authority with people ever  
 ‘ attentive to weaken, and even to abolish  
 ‘ the prerogative of kings. The enemies  
 ‘ of the whigs took advantage of this dis-  
 ‘ position of her majesty. She prorogued  
 ‘ the parliament, and soon after made con-  
 ‘ siderable alterations in the great offices  
 ‘ of state.

‘ In the month of *August* 1710, the *Q*.  
 ‘ took the staff of high treasurer of *England*  
 ‘ from lord *Godolphin*, and appointed five  
 ‘ lords commissioners of the treasury.

‘ The disgrace of *Sommers*, president of  
 ‘ the council, followed that of the high  
 ‘ treasurer. The earl of *Rochester*, the  
 ‘ queen’s uncle, had *Sommers*’s place.

‘ *Boyle* secretary of state, and *Sunder-*  
 ‘ *land*’s colleague, prevented the disgrace  
 ‘ that threatened him, by a voluntary re-  
 ‘ signation of his office; it was given to  
 ‘ *St. John*, secretary at war, whose fine  
 ‘ genius, lively wit, and acquired im-  
 ‘ provements, rendered him capable of  
 ‘ filling the highest employments. He  
 ‘ was not known to have any connection  
 ‘ with *Harley*, but seemed rather to be of  
 ‘ *Marlborough*’s party; however without  
 ‘ having any dependance on that man,  
 ‘ who was lord paramount of *England*;

“ *St. John* depended only on the queen  
 “ his mistress, his principal view being the  
 “ glory and interest of her majesty.

“ The duke of *Devonshire* lost his place  
 “ of lord steward of the household, which  
 “ was given to the duke of *Buckingham*.

“ The earl of *Wharton*, lord lieutenant  
 “ of *Ireland*; and the earl of *Orford*, first  
 “ lord commissioner of the admiralty, for-  
 “ merly known by the name of admiral  
 “ *Russel*, threw up their commissions. At  
 “ length a proclamation was issued for  
 “ dissolving the present parliament, and a  
 “ new one to meet, as also for electing  
 “ the 16 peers of *Scotland*.”

The new ministry being settled, and  
 being desirous of a peace they sent one  
*Gaultier*, a *French* priest, left here by Ma-  
*rshal Tallard*, with the following instruc-  
 tions to the court of *France*.

“ These instructions consisted in letting  
 “ the king know, “ that the new minis-  
 “ ters, whom the queen of *Great Britain*  
 “ had intrusted with the direction of her  
 “ affairs, were desirous of peace, and  
 “ thought it necessary for the welfare of  
 “ *England*; that it was not in their pow-  
 “ er to set a private negotiation on foot  
 “ with *France*, being obliged, for their  
 “ own safety to use great circumspection;  
 “ that the K. must therefore again propose  
 “ to the *Dutch*, to renew the conferences  
 “ for a general peace; that as soon  
 “ as they were opened, the ambassadors  
 “ from *England* should have such parti-  
 “ cular orders, that it would be no lon-  
 “ ger in the power of the *Dutch* to hin-  
 “ der a peace being concluded.”

As soon as *Gaultier* arrived in *France*,  
 he acquainted *de Torcy* with the state of  
 the *English* government. As the king of  
*France* thought he had been ill-used by  
 the *Dutch*, in the conferences which had  
 been set on foot through their means be-  
 fore, he had little temptation to renew the  
 treaty with them. But *Gaultier* soon set  
 them right in that matter.

“ Give me, said he, a letter for my lord  
 “ *Jersey*; let the contents be no more than  
 “ this, that you are glad to hear of his  
 “ being in good health; that you have  
 “ charged me to thank him for his kind  
 “ remembrance, and make your compli-  
 “ ments to him.”

By these means, he said, they would  
 come to a good understanding: this the  
 king approved, and commanded *de Torcy*  
 to write the letter, and deliver it to the  
 abbé,

With these instructions *Gaultier* came  
 to *London*, and wrote back to *France*,  
 “ That, since the king had such just mo-  
 “ tives for not renewing the negotiations  
 “ with *Holland*, nor by that channel, the  
 “ ministers of *Great Britain* desired his  
 “ majesty would communicate his propo-  
 “ sals for a general peace to them, which  
 “ they would send over to *Holland*, their  
 “ design being to commence a negotiation,  
 “ in concert with their allies: but they  
 “ hoped his majesty's offers, by the inter-  
 “ position of *England*, would be no less  
 “ advantageous than those which he had  
 “ lately made at the conferences of *Ger-  
 trudenburg*, and that, for the honour of  
 “ their nation, he would not propose worse  
 “ conditions than the former.”

The memorial accordingly was sent over  
 to *England*, and from thence to *Holland*;  
 by which the negotiations for peace were  
 set on foot. To obstruct which many  
 violent attempts were made, of which we  
 have an account in the fourth part of this  
 work. Prince *Eugene* came over to *Eng-  
 land* with this design; but, “ The high  
 “ treasurer (says the Marquis) resolving  
 “ to keep terms no longer with the queen's  
 “ enemies and his own, had been before-  
 “ hand with prince *Eugene*. The prince  
 “ was not yet arrived when the duke of  
 “ *Marlborough* was dismissed from all his  
 “ employments, and accused of having  
 “ converted the public money to his own  
 “ use, in that very assembly, where ten  
 “ years running he had received the thanks  
 “ and encomiums of the nation at his re-  
 “ turn from each campaign. He was  
 “ charged with having taken and reserved  
 “ to himself immense sums out of the pay  
 “ of the foreign troops; besides the pre-  
 “ sents which he had received or rather  
 “ extorted from the officers that provide  
 “ ammunition for the army. One single  
 “ article of these extortions amounted to  
 “ forty-two thousand pounds sterling. In  
 “ vain did he plead in his defence, that the  
 “ late king *William* had allowed the ge-  
 “ neral of the army, a privilege to de-  
 “ duct out of the pay of the foreign troops  
 “ a regulated sum for secret correspon-  
 “ dences. *Marlborough* maintained that  
 “ he had exacted nothing beyond that re-  
 “ gulation, which had been confirm-  
 “ ed by the queen's order in the month  
 “ of *July* 1702. Notwithstanding this de-  
 “ fence the queen declared that she thought  
 “ proper to dismiss the duke from all his  
 “ employments, in order to leave a free and  
 “ im-



‘ impartial course to so important an inquiry.

After which prince *Eugene* arrived and was but coldly received by the queen: he then betook himself to plot with *Marlborough* what further might be done; and the following anecdotes are very remarkable.

‘ He consulted chiefly the duke of *Marlborough* and *Bothmar*, wanting to know their opinion in regard to what was to be done for the joint interest of the allies. *Marlborough*, comparing the state of *England* at that time to the situation the kingdom was in, in the year 1688, said that the present disorders required the same remedies as those which the nation and the prince of *Orange* had used on that occasion. On the other hand *Bothmar* maintained that those remedies were impracticable, and founded his opinion on this, that the body of the nation was not at all disposed to favour a revolution: “ therefore the miscarriage (said he) of such an enterprize, will load the authors of the unlucky project with public hatred.”

‘ *Marlborough* on the contrary affirmed, “ That the nation would give themselves very little trouble about the lives of three persons, the remainder of *Cromwell's* party, and that the tories in particular would be still more indifferent about them. But to reconcile the two opinions, *Marlborough* proposed to employ a band of ruffians, who were to be encouraged to stroll about the streets by night, and under pretence of buffoonery to insult people going along; in short to increase this licentiousness by degrees, so as daily to commit greater disorders. He pretended, that when the inhabitants of *London* were accustomed to the insults of these disturbers, it would not be at all difficult to assassinate such persons as they should think fit to get rid of, and to throw the whole blame thereof on that licentious band.”

‘ To the honour of prince *Eugene*, it is said, he rejected so odious a project; yet a much bolder scheme, and of a more detestable nature, is laid to his charge. It consisted, if we can depend upon the relations of some people, who perhaps were misinformed, in setting fire to different parts of the city of *London*, and pitching upon a time to put that purpose in execution, when the guards upon duty were commanded by an of-

‘ ficer whom they could trust. *Marlborough* at the head of a strong party in arms, should appear when the fire was spreading its devastation widest; then seize on the tower of *London*; next on the queen's person; afterwards oblige her to dissolve the parliament and call a new one, in order to make a free inquiry into the correspondences and negotiations established with *France*, and to punish with the utmost severity those who had been concerned in them.

‘ Whatever may be the truth, in regard to these different proposals, it is certain that prince *Eugene's* notions, as well as those of *Marlborough* and *Bothmar*, were submitted to the opinion of *Sommers*, *Cooper*, and *Hallifax*, the principal whigs; but they refused to declare their minds, much less to approve of any of those projects. They said they had incurred the displeasure of the people by prosecuting *Sacheverel*, though in a juridical way; that this had been a sufficient specimen to let them see what they must expect from the public hatred and revenge, were they to render themselves accomplices of bloody and treasonable acts: that the most prudent and only legal step they could take, was to impeach the evil counsellors, and to proceed against them according to the ordinary forms. Their opinion was that *Bothmar* should present a second memorial, more clear and more positive than the former, containing the severest complaints against the administration, whose maxims and conduct were all tending to enslave the nation. *Bothmar* had hitherto agreed to every scheme, in which the *English* only were concerned; but he refused to acquiesce in one, which he was to execute himself. He said he should run the risque of his head, were he to present such a memorial, without any orders from his master; that his complaisance could go no further than to compose an anonymous writing, which should contain all that could be inserted in the memorial; that it should be printed in *Holland*, and published afterwards in *England*.

*De Torcy* adds further that the ministry received several advices of real or fictitious plots, and especially were warned to take care of the queen's birth-day. These advices, which perhaps were groundless, made such an impression as to cause an

‘ ad-

• advertisement to be inserted in the *London Gazette*, that if the author of that  
 • piece of intelligence would make him-  
 • self known, he should be rewarded for  
 • his zeal and fidelity.

• At the same time they took great pre-  
 • caution for the queen's security, and to  
 • prevent all danger, her guards were  
 • doubled, several of the gates of St.  
 • James's palace were shut, and different  
 • parties of the horse-guards were posted  
 • in the neighbourhood. They even ap-  
 • pointed a guard to attend prince *Eugene*  
 • that whole day, under the pretence of  
 • defending him from the insults of the  
 • mob. At length all these agitations sub-  
 • sided on his departure for *Holland*.

Notwithstanding these attempts, a conference for a general peace was opened at *Utrecht* on the 29th of *January*, 1712. A suspension of arms was soon agreed upon, and Lord *Bolingbroke* went over to *Paris*, and the chief matters relating to the congress were adjusted between him and *De Torcy*. This negotiation is told pretty much at length, and contains many interesting anecdotes. The reader of these *Memoirs* will be enabled to form a judgment relating to the peace of *Utrecht*, which has made so much noise among the partisans of contending factions, and as *France* was in a very abject condition, perhaps, many will determine that our ministry should have carried on the war. Be that as it may, the memoirs of *Torcy* are a valuable performance both for the matter, the curious anecdotes contained in them, and for the good sense and perspicuity which run through the whole. In the words of the translator, (who has executed his task with ability and elegance)  
 • It is not the labour of an obscure compi-  
 • ler, lost in a labyrinth of original pie-  
 • ces, which he patches together without  
 • judgment or choice, solicitous only to  
 • swell the size of his volume. Neither is  
 • it the performance of an historian unequal to the task he has undertaken, who  
 • derives his facts from settled prejudices,  
 • or endeavours to subject them to his capricious conjectures. It is the work of  
 • a witness of undoubted credit; one of  
 • the principal actors in the field of political operations described by his elegant pen.

*An Estimate of the Manners and Principles of the Times, by the Author of the ESSAYS on the CHARACTERISTICS.*

*Quamvis pontica pinus,  
 Silvæ filia nobilis,  
 Jactes et genus et nomen inutile.*

Printed for Davis and Reymers, in Holborn.

EXPECTATION was naturally raised by the title of this book and the character of the writer: but whether it hath been answered with the generality of readers, we have not been able to learn. We should rather be inclined to think otherwise; because the author has in this performance taken a political turn, in which he cannot be so generally pleasing as in his former book, when he had the ideas of beauty and virtue, the origin of poetry and eloquence, and all the beautiful reasonings and flights of imagination of lord *Shaftsbury* to discuss and criticize. Those subjects are not only interesting in their own nature, but their elegance further recommends them to all, who have or pretend to have a refinement of taste; whereas there is a dryness in political enquiries, on account of which they are not palatable to every reader. As they do not tend much to enthusiasm or admiration, genius is cramped, and the powers of fancy are suppressed: matters of fact, cool enquiry, plain reasoning, and deliberate inferences, supported by experience and acknowledged evidences, are all required from the political writer; and these, though ever so well executed, will never gain the writer the degree of reputation which is to be acquired by treatises on more elegant subjects. Thus much we thought necessary to premise, that the reader should not expect a pleasure in this book which was not intended, and which is foreign to the subject. This is the business of the critic on every composition that comes before him: to him it belongs to consider the nature of the subject, the kind of embellishments of which it is susceptible, and the scope of the writer. If he is not deficient in matter, if he has clearly developed that matter; if he has ornamented his style with graces suitable to the occasion, without looking for foreign and unnecessary embellishments, and has executed what was his design at setting out; then it may fairly be pronounced that he has been the author of a good performance.

*In ev'ry work regard the writer's end,  
 Since none can compass more than they  
 intend;*

*And*



*And if the means be just, the conduct true,  
Applause, in spite of trivial faults, is due.*

Were we to mention the trivial faults which we find with this work, we should animadvert on the price of the book as the principal objection. One or two and twenty lines at most in a page, with about six or seven words in a line, cannot pass for a fair method of printing; by these means, and with the help of frequent sections, and then again subdividing those sections into frequent paragraphs, a work that might reasonably be sold as an eighteen-penny pamphlet, may be swelled to the size of a three or four shilling book. If an estimate were published of the principles and manners of the authors, publishers and printers of the age, would not something like the following paragraph be very applicable to them all? "The passion for money being founded not in sense, but imagination, admits of no satiety, like those which are called the natural passions. Hence the natural character of writers, publishers and printers, when they have recourse to artifices to swell the size of a volume for the sake of wringing more money out of the readers, is that of imposition and avarice."

With regard to the plan of this work, it is executed with a clear neat stile and a perspicuity of reasoning. The author sets out with observing, that it has been the hackneyed custom of political scribblers to charge all national miscarriages on individuals, whereas he is of opinion (and his opinion is not unsupported) that the source is laid deeper in the manners and principles of the people. He treats first of the manners, because he thinks they do not flow from principles, but on the contrary that our principles arise from prevailing manners. Before he enters into an examination of the characteristic vices of the age, he sums up the few remaining public virtues left among us. "Among these, the first and most important, is the spirit of liberty. This happily still subsists among us: not indeed in its genuine vigour; for then it would work its genuine effects. Yet, that the love of liberty is not extinguished, appears from the united voice of a divided people. It still animates their conversation, and invigorates their addresses: tho' in their conduct it appears no more. But it is remarkable, that in proportion as this spirit hath grown weak in deeds, it hath gained strength in words; and of late

run out into unbounded license. This, however, appears beyond a doubt: that we all wish to continue free; tho' we have not the virtue to secure our freedom. The spirit of liberty is now struggling with the manners and principles, as formerly it struggled with the tyrants of the time. But the danger is now greater, because the enemy is within; working secretly and securely, and destroying all those internal powers, from which alone an effectual opposition can arise.

Wherever this spirit of liberty subsists in its full vigour, the vigilance and power of impotent governors are vain: a nation can neither be surprised nor compelled into slavery: when this is extinguished, neither the virtue nor vigilance of patriots can save it. In the reign of James II. Great-Britain was free, tho' a despotic prince was on the throne: at the time when Cesar fell, Rome was still enslaved, tho' the tyrant was no more.

This great spirit hath produced more full and complete effects in our own country, than in any known nation that ever was upon earth. It appears indeed, from a concurrence of facts too large to be produced here, that whereas it hath been ingrafted by the arts of policy in other countries, it shoots up here as from its natural climate, stock, and soil. From this distinction, if laid in nature, two or three consequences will fairly arise. Its effects must, of course, be more vigorous and full. Its destruction, by external violence, will probably be no more than temporary. Its chief danger must arise from such causes, as may poison the root; or attack, and destroy the natural spirit itself: these must be such causes, as can steal upon, and subdue the mind: that is, they must be some degeneracy or corruption of the manners and principles of the people."

Let us now trace the spirit of liberty through such of its effects, as are not yet destroyed by opposite principles and manners.

The first that occurs, is humanity. By this, is not meant that smoothness and refined polish of external manners, by which the present age affects to be distinguished: for this, it is apprehended, will belong to another class. By humanity, therefore, is meant, "that pity for distress, that moderation in limiting punishments by their proper ends" and

“ and measures, by which this nation hath  
“ always been distinguished.”

“ The lenity of our laws in capital cases;  
“ our compassion for convicted criminals;  
“ even the general humanity of our high-  
“ waymen and robbers, compared with  
“ those of other countries; these are con-  
“ current proofs that the spirit of huma-  
“ nity is natural to our nation.

“ The many noble foundations for the  
“ relief of the miserable and the friendless;  
“ the large annual supplies from voluntary  
“ charities to these foundations; the fre-  
“ quent and generous assistance given to  
“ the unfortunate, who cannot be ad-  
“ mitted into these foundations; all these  
“ are such indisputable proofs of a national  
“ humanity, as it were the highest injustice  
“ not to acknowledge and applaud.

“ Another virtue and of the highest  
“ consequence, as it regards the immediate  
“ and private happiness of individuals, yet  
“ left among us, is the pure administration  
“ of justice, as it regards private pro-  
“ perty.

“ Many causes may be assigned, for the  
“ continuance of this public blessing. The  
“ spirit of liberty and humanity beget a  
“ spirit of equity, where no contrary pas-  
“ sion interferes: the spirit of commerce,  
“ now predominant, begets a kind of re-  
“ gulated selfishness, which tends at once  
“ to the increase and preservation of pro-  
“ perty. The difficulty of corrupting ju-  
“ ries under the checks of their present  
“ establishment, in most cases prevents the  
“ very attempt. And the long-continued  
“ example of a great person on the seat of  
“ equity, hath diffused an uncorrupt spirit  
“ through the inferior courts, and will  
“ shine to the latest posterity.”

He then enters into an account of the  
manners of the times, so far as they affect  
the duration of the public state; “ though  
“ the sum total, says he, of a nation’s  
“ immediate happiness must arise, and be  
“ estimated, from the manners and prin-  
“ ciples of the whole; yet the manners  
“ and principles of those who *lead*, not of  
“ those who *are led*; of those who *govern*,  
“ not of those who *are governed*; of those,  
“ in short, who *make* laws or *execute* them,  
“ will ever determine the strength or weak-  
“ ness, and therefore the continuance or  
“ dissolution, of a state.”

He then asserts that the character of the  
times is not abandoned wickedness and  
profligacy, but vain, luxurious, and selfish  
effeminacy. To prove this, he deduces  
his proofs from the unwholesome warmth

of the nursery, and then traces us from  
infancy through the whole course of mo-  
dern education up to manhood: he enu-  
merates the many errors in our educa-  
tion, both at the university and the fashio-  
nable tour abroad; and shews how the  
delicacies of the table, and the gay solici-  
tudes of dress serve to unnerve the mind.  
He expatiates somewhat largely on the lu-  
xuries of modern architecture, furniture,  
equipage, gardening, public entertain-  
ments, gaming, &c. With regard to  
learning he has the following remarkable  
passage: “ True it is, that amidst this ge-  
“ neral defect of taste and learning, there  
“ is a *writer*, whose force of genius, and  
“ extent of knowledge might almost re-  
“ deem the character of the times. But  
“ that superiority which attracts the reve-  
“ rence of the *few*, excites the envy and  
“ hatred of the *many*: and while his works  
“ are translated and admired *abroad*, and  
“ patronized at home, by those who are  
“ most distinguished in genius, taste, and  
“ learning, himself is abused, and his  
“ friends insulted for his sake, by those  
“ who never read his writings, or, if they  
“ did, could neither *taste* nor *comprehend*  
“ them: while every little aspiring or de-  
“ spairing scribbler eyes him as *Cassius* did  
“ *Cesar*, and whispers to his fellow,

“ *Why man, he doth bestride the narrow*  
“ *world*

“ *Like a Colossus; and we petty men*

“ *Walk under his huge legs; and peep*  
“ *about,*

“ *To find ourselves dishonourable graves.*

“ No wonder then, if the malice of the  
“ Lilliputian tribe be bent against this  
“ dreaded *Gulliver*; if they attack him  
“ with *poisoned arrows*, whom they cannot  
“ subdue by *strength*.”

It may be no hard matter to guess whom  
he intends in this compliment: but surely  
this is no fair estimate of the writers of the  
age; nor can we be induced to think all  
genius swallowed up by him, or that he is  
so superior to all his contemporaries. For just  
criticism, true taste and elegance of style,  
we perhaps can name his superiors; and in  
erudition and valuable knowledge it is not  
impossible to find his equals. As the esti-  
mate of the age is false in this particular,  
we could not help remarking it. Our au-  
thor proceeds from manners to principles,  
which he reduces to three, *viz.* the re-  
ligious principle, the principle of honour,  
and the principle of public spirit. With  
regard to the first he observes, that, not-  
with-



withstanding the general contempt of religion, the present age is not far gone in speculations of infidelity. That, says he, would imply a certain attention to these matters, a certain degree of self-converse and thought, and this would clash with the ruling manners of the times. This distinction, he adds a little after, 'will lead us to the plain reason, why in an age of irreligion, so capital a book as the writings of lord Bolingbroke, met with so cold a reception in the world. Had they appeared under the inviting shape of "ESSAYS philosophical and moral," they might have come within the compass of a breakfast-reading, or amused the man of fashion while under the discipline of the curling-tongs: but five huge quarto volumes (like five coarse dishes of beef and mutton) tho' fraught with the very marrow of infidelity, what puny modern appetite could possibly sit down to?'

As to the principle of honour, he asserts it to be totally extinguished; 'Was there ever a juster picture, says he, than of modern effeminacy and nonchalance in the characters of Fribble and lord Chalkstone? Did ever dramatic characters raise louder peals of laughter and applause even among those who sat for the likeness? They hear with pleasure, they acknowledge the truth of the representation, they laugh at the picture of their own follies; they go home, and without a blush repeat them. The truth is, therefore, that we can see and own our own vices and follies, without being touched with shame: a circumstance which ancient times justly regarded as the strongest indication of degenerate and incorrigible manners.'

He decides in the same manner against public spirit, which he says is not felt among us, and then proceeds to the effects of the above manners and principles (want of principles we think he should have expressed it.) In this part of the work he establishes the capacity, valour, and union of our leaders as the three sources of internal strength. Of the first his sentiments may be gathered from the following passage

'How weak then must be the national capacity of that people, whose leading members in public employ should, in general, be formed on such a model? If instead of a general application to books, instead of investigating the great principles of legislation, the genius of their national constitution, or its relations and

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dependencies on that of others, the great examples and truths of history, the maxims of generous and upright policy, and the severer truths of philosophy, on which all these are founded;---if instead of these, they should seldom rise in political study higher than the securing of a borough; instead of history, be only read in novels; instead of legislation, in party pamphlets; instead of philosophy, in irreligion; instead of manly and upright manners, in trifling entertainments, dress, and gaming:-- if this should ever be their ruling character, what must be expected from such established ignorance, but errors in the first concoction?'

He tells us with great truth that the fashionable manners abound in the army and navy; the gentlemen of which professions are distinguished by their taste in dress, their skill at play, and their attendance on every amusement; and surely it must be by miracle if this trifling and effeminate life conduct them to knowledge, or produce capacity.

With regard to valour, or the national spirit of defence, the following short extract will shew our author's opinion.

'Our effeminate and unmanly life, working along with our island-climate, hath notoriously produced an increase of low spirits and nervous disorders, whose natural and unalterable character is that of fear.'

'And even where this distemper is not, the present false delicacy of the fashionable world effectually disqualifies them from enduring toil, or facing danger.'

'Enthusiastic religion leads to conquest; rational religion leads to rational defence; but the modern spirit of irreligion leads to rascally and abandoned cowardice. It quenches every generous hope that can enlarge the soul; and levels mankind with the beasts that perish.'

'Can the debility of modern honour produce the manly spirit of defence? Alas, if ever it is put in action by any thing beyond the vanity of shew; it is roused by an affront, and dies in a duel.'

'How far this dastard spirit of effeminacy hath crept upon us, and destroyed the national spirit of defence, may appear from the general panic the nation was thrown into at the late rebellion. When those of every rank above a constable, instead of arming themselves and encouraging the people, generally fled before the rebels; while a mob of ragged highlanders marched unmolested to the heart

S

heart of a populous kingdom.

True courage and a principle of honour, if they be not the rare and generous growths of nature, are the effect of early and continued habits. Tho' grown gentlemen may learn to dance: yet, their movements will be none of the most graceful: and tho' grown gentlemen repair to the school of courage and honour: yet, with all their pre-conceived maxims of false delicacy, their trifling ambitions, and effeminate manners about them, I ween, they are like to make a sorry progress. Long before this, the mind hath taken its decisive cast of thought, and can but rarely be brought back from its first obliquities.

But suppose the possibility of this sudden infusion: it is to be feared, the consequence would fail us. It is true, that when armies take the field, and fleets put to sea; when sieges are undertaken, and battles fought, and glory is the prize of toil and danger;—then indeed armies and navies become the schools of courage and warlike honour: here is a strong and continued bias put upon the mind of every individual, of force to conquer its earliest obliquities. But where nothing of this happens; where land officers in the capital are occupied in dress, cards, and tea; and in country towns divide their time between milliners shops and taverns; and sea officers, even in time of war, instead of annoying the enemies fleets, are chiefly busied in the gainful trade of catching prizes;—in such a case, the army must of necessity be the school, not of honour, but effeminacy; the navy the school of avarice, to the ends of effeminacy.

How far these general reasonings are confirmed by a series of recent events, the world is left to judge. It is not the writer's intention to make personal applications, but to trace acknowledged facts to their principles and consequences.

He justly determines that we have no spirit of national union; and this he imputes to the manners already delineated: The lucrative employments of our country, (says he) not being near so numerous as the claimants are, in every degree of political power and expectation; the spirit of selfish faction arose of course in its strength, from unsatisfied demands, and disappointed avarice.

It hath much been debated, whether the ministers or the people have contributed more to the establishment of this

system of self-interest and faction. On inquiry it would probably appear, that at different periods the pendulum hath swung at large on both sides. It came down, in former times, from the minister to the representative, from the representative to the managing alderman, from the alderman to the cobbler. In later times, the impulse seems to have been chiefly in the contrary direction: from the cobbler to the managing alderman; from him, to the member; from the member to the great man, who ruled the borough, and thence to the minister; thus what was formerly, in the minister, an act of supposed prudence, has of late grown into an act of supposed necessity. The cobbler by this time had found his strength, so the pressure went upwards, till it came upon the ministry.

To suppose that the servants of the Crown never attempted measures that were known to be bad, nor ever made parliaments, in order to carry their attempts into action, would be ridiculous: but on the other hand it is equally true, what *Machiavel* some where delivers as a maxim, "That an ill-disposed citizen can do no great harm, but in an ill-disposed city." Bribery in the minister supposes a corrupt people.

And, to venture a plain, though perhaps an unpopular truth on this occasion: it must be owned that a minister is not therefore certainly corrupt in his intention, because he makes a parliament by indirect and corrupt means. This conduct, however indefensible, may arise from two opposite causes. He may be afraid of the virtue of a nation, in its opposing bad measures: or he may not dare to rely on the virtue of a nation, in supporting him in *good ones*.

We see then, how the political system of self-interest is at length compleated; and a foundation laid in our principles and manners for endless dissensions in the state.

Thus faction is established, not on ambition, but on avarice: on avarice and rapacity, for the ends of dissipation.

Need we point out particular facts, in confirmation of these truths? Is not the nation even now labouring under this fatal malady? Is not the deadly bowstring already stretched, and the public gasping and expiring under the tugs of opposed and contending parties?

The consequences of this disunion are obvious, and our author enumerates them in



in the following section. If the nation be warlike, and the spirit of defence be strong, the danger will arise from within: if the nation be effeminate, and the spirit of defence be weak, the danger will generally arise from without. We cannot help observing that if the spirit of defence be strong in the breasts of *Englishmen*, there will be little danger from any overgrown faction; and if it be weak, we shall be liable to danger internal and external; as indeed seems to be the case of this nation at present. As the manners of the *French* are as depraved and effeminate as ours, it may be said, that their condition must be as precarious as ours: but our author observes that their manners are chequed and counteracted in their effects by a variety of causes and principles wholly dissimilar.

‘ Their effeminate manners affect not their national capacity, because their youth are assiduously trained up for all public offices, civil, naval, military, in schools provided at the national expence: here the candidates for public employ go thro’ a severe and laborious course of discipline, and only expect to rise in station, as they rise in knowledge and ability.

‘ Their effeminate manners affect not their national spirit of defence, because they are controlled by the principle of military honour. This, for some ages, hath been early instilled into every rising generation; and is at length become so strong and universal, as to form the national character. It spreads thro’ every rank: inspires even the meanest in the kingdom: and pervades and actuates the whole machine of government, with a force little inferior to that of public virtue.’

After descanting not incuriously on this principle of honor, which subsists in its strength, when other principles are weakened, and manners lost, he then proceeds to exhibit to us a just picture of our natural enemies.

‘ Forced by this, the character of the *French* nation, tho’ inconsistent, is respectable: they have found, or rather invented, the art of uniting all extremes: they have virtues and vices, strengths and weaknesses, seemingly incompatible: they are effeminate yet brave: insincere yet honourable: hospitable, not benevolent: vain, yet subtle: splendid, not generous: warlike, yet polite: plausible, not virtuous: mercantile, yet not mean: in trifles serious, gay in enterprize: women at the toilet, heroes in the field:

‘ profligate in heart; in conduct, decent: divided in opinion, in action united: in manners weak, but strong in principle: contemptible in private life; in public formidable.’

His next inquiry is into the sources of the manners and principles above described, and he charges the whole of our degeneracy upon the flourishing condition of our trade, which, he says, begets avarice, gross luxury, or effeminate refinement among the higher ranks, together with the general loss of principle; from whence he concludes that the wealth of *England* accounts for its present effeminacy. Our religion he shews to be affected by it; the principle of honor of course must suffer; public spirit takes a tincture of avarice, and is turned to the means of self-gratification, and thus upon the whole we are fitted for a prey to the insults and invasions of our most powerful enemy. Having thus established his position, he proceeds to answer objections that may be made; he affirms that trade does not strengthen the nation by making it populous, for which his principal reasons are, that the vanity and effeminacy introduced by commerce lessen the desire of marriage: that the intemperance occasioned by trade introduces an impotence, and that this debility shortens life, and therefore diminishes our numbers. But that trade lessens the desire of marriage we believe is false: because many marriages are made out of mere vanity, on account of the gratifications Taste affords; and if we were to ask the married ladies, we presume, it would appear that effeminacy has not been able to prevent many marriages, in this country of late years. Besides many matches are concluded for mere convenience among commercial people: an honest tradesman wants a small addition to his fortune, and he therefore looks out for a wife; another wants a person to look after his shop and mind his household affairs, when his occasions call him abroad; he therefore takes to him a wife for the sake of this domestic business; and thus for various prudential reasons, marriage is rather promoted than hurt by trade. The marriage act, we should imagine, will do essential harm in this way, and we therefore wonder our author has let it escape him. He says that our villages are thinned by commerce: but he forgets that *Birmingham* has started up within this century, not to mention other populous cities, and the marine of *England* is now

double what it was about forty years ago. Whatever effect trade may have on the manners of a nation by introducing luxury and effeminacy, it is certain that great commerce and large manufactures must attract numbers: and though the increase will not be very great, when once a kingdom is become flourishing, yet that is no objection, as our author seems to think it is, to its attaining that highest period. It might as well be said that a person had better never live to be one and twenty, because he will not grow so much then as before.

Allowing however that a greatly extended commerce is productive of the evils, which our author complains of, they are effects unhappy from a noble cause. From a cause that must subsist in this country, otherwise we shall cease to be a nation; for if we let our enemies get our trade out of our hands, we shall lose the nerves of war. It is not a new doctrine that money is the *primum mobile* of military operations: *Vectigalia nervos esse reipublicæ semper duximus*, are the words of *Tully*; though we must agree with our author that the capital question at present with us is, not "who shall pay, but who shall fight?" Our author concludes his book with the following passage, the sentiments in which are just and striking at this juncture.

Thus are we fallen into a kind of dilemma: if our commerce be maintained or increased, its effects bid fair to destroy us; if commerce be discouraged and lessened, the growing power of our enemy threatens the same consequence.

There seems then, no other expedient than this, "That commerce and wealth be not discouraged in their growth; but checked and controlled in their effects."

And even in attempting this, care must be had, lest in controlling the effects of commerce, we should destroy commerce itself.

There are two different kinds of remedies, which might in due time be applied. The first are radical, general, and lasting: the latter, palliative, particular, and temporary.

The first seem totally impracticable at present: for as they suppose a change of manners and principles, this may justly be regarded as an impossible event, during the present age; and rather to be wished than hoped for, in the next.

The palliative, particular, and temporary remedies, may seem more practica-

ble at this juncture. I mean, those which are of the coercive kind; which work by opposed passions, or by destroying the opportunities or occasions of evil: where the ruling mischiefs lie among the people, these remedies, with proper care, may easily be administered. Thus we have lately seen the salutary effects of a new kind of police established by a useful magistrate in the city of *London*: by which, the reigning evil of *Street-robberies* hath been almost suppressed; although we may reasonably suppose, the disposition towards them remains as strong as ever.

Necessity therefore, and necessity alone, must in such a case be the parent of reformation. Effeminacy, rapacity, and faction, will then be ready to resign their reigns: they would now usurp: one common danger will create one common interest: virtue may rise on the ruins of corruption; and a despairing nation yet be saved, by the wisdom, the integrity, and unshaken courage, of some great minister.

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*Letters concerning Taste, by the author of the life of Socrates, Doddsley, price 3s. 6d.*

THIS author's genius seems to shine more in description than in definition: he has more of imagery than of speculation, and his imagination seems to be the strongest talent of his mind: indeed the beams of it play so warmly, that tho' the solid power of understanding does not fail, yet we must say that judgment seems to melt away. In this work at least we could wish he had exerted more of the last-mentioned faculty, because it is natural for people, when they see this performance advertised, to expect to see this subject illustrated; to have a standard of taste fixed and determined; the reasons why certain objects offered to our imagination, either in nature or in poetry, should have a pleasing effect, or else should excite a disagreeable impression, explained and made easy; and rules might have been laid down for the acquisition of a good taste, or the correcting a vitiated one. Little of this sort is here done: what approaches nearest to information is the following account of taste, "The effect of a good taste, says he, is that instantaneous glow of pleasure which thrills through our whole frame, and seizes upon the applause of the heart, before the intellectual power, reason, can descend from the throne of the mind to ratify its approbation."



tion, either when we receive into the soul beautiful images through the organs of bodily senses; or the decorum of an amiable character thro' the faculties of moral perception: or when we recall, by the imitative arts, both of them through the intermediate power of the imagination.' This he has defined much plainer, and in a more simple, easy manner in the contents, where he tells us 'that a good taste is an instantaneous feeling of what is beautiful'. Throughout the remainder of the work he adopts those tenets of philosophy, of which *Plato* is the original author, and which have been admirably enforced of late years with all the graces of fine writing, by lord *Shatbury*, *Hutchinson* and doctor *Akinside*, that beautiful master of didactic poetry. Tho' the author has not attempted to offer any thing new on this subject, yet we must do him the justice to say that he is always entertaining, spirited, and splendid in his diction; and he who is not instructed by him, cannot fail of being pleased and diverted. As a specimen of his stile, and of that strength of imagination which we have already ascribed to this writer, we have thought proper to select his mythological genealogy of taste, in the manner of the antients, in which the readers will find a great deal of just sentiment, and elegant writing.

'In a cave of a mountain in the island of *Crete*, dwelt a nymph called *Contemplation*, sprung, as the *Mythologists* report, from *Jupiter*, the greatest of the Gods; for, according to their accounts, she was conceived and leaped forth from the brain of her celestial parent, as *Pallas* did, whilst he was deeply attentive in beholding the beauties of the creation. In this sacred retirement the nymph had lived many ages, whither several antient poets, heroes, philosophers, and legislators frequently resorted, for no one ever left her without receiving the utmost happiness from her divine precepts. As *Apollo* was wandering one day over the top of this mountain, he chanced to light upon this heavenly maid, whilst she was busied in her usual employment of meditating on this stupendous system, and the divine perfections of the great creator of the world. Smit with her charms, he immediately descended into the cave, and having enjoyed her, she bore him a son, whom the God named *Eudoxus*, alluding to the noble ideas which filled the mother's mind when he first beheld her. 'Tis said, as the nymph *Contemplation*

was one night counting the stars, and describing on the sand with a wand their different situations and motions, having left the child not far off on a bed of violets, that the nightingale came and cover'd him with laurel leaves, and lulled him to sleep with the melody of her song, softly modulated to the tender year of the listening infant. About this time the *Delphian Oracle* declared that a ray of light was descended from the Sun, and being discerped from that mighty luminary should be spread all over *Greece*, *Italy*, and part of *Asia minor* for many ages. When *Eudoxus* had passed the years of childhood, *Apollo* being desirous not only to instruct him in the abstruser knowledge of his mother, but to unite in his education a thorough relish of such other arts and sciences, as might render him a benefactor to mankind in general and his favourite nation the *Greeks* in particular, he took the boy to his own beloved seat of retirement, and committed his darling charge to the care of the Nine Muses, and their sisters the heavenly Graces. Here *Eudoxus* was instructed, first how the great Architect of the creation divided the warring elements, and out of Chaos formed by his plastic mandate the unmeasurable frame of this stupendous universe. Next, how the refulgent source of light and heat, the sun, sprung thro' the blue serene of heaven, and being fixed immoveable in the center of all, drew round his glorious orb those inferior globes, whose certain and unerring courses, in unchangeable periods of time, from that ætherial harmony imperceptible to all beings but the inhabitants of heaven. Then he was told how the oblique position of this our earth in its annual progress caused the delightful revolutions of seasons; how the soft descending rains and genial warmth of spring, opened the relenting earth, called forth the infant buds, and afterwards unfolded all the vegetable pride of flowers and blossoms; how the more perpendicular rays of heat ripened the rising harvest in summer; how autumn gloried in the regal hue of its purple vintage; and lastly, how the sterile winter itself was as useful to mortals as the other teeming seasons, by affording in its cold embraces the requisite rest to the sleeping vegetables, which thereby gain fresh vigour to renew their species, and to perpetuate sustenance to all animals, in the same rotation, till time shall be no more. From this

' this general knowledge of nature, he was  
 ' led to enquire into the construction of  
 ' particular parts, the bodies of animals,  
 ' and especially those of the human race;  
 ' to discover the causes of pain and dis-  
 ' ease, and by what methods to restore  
 ' them to their pristine beauty and internal  
 ' harmony called health, and to recall the  
 ' natural original sensations of ease and  
 ' pleasure. When the daughters of Me-  
 ' mory had fully instructed *Eudoxus*, as  
 ' *Apollo* had directed them, in every branch  
 ' of this knowledge, they brought him by  
 ' degrees to conceive that an ætherial spi-  
 ' rit was for a while united with the hu-  
 ' man body: how it was agitated by dif-  
 ' ferent passions whilst in this conjunction;  
 ' and then after solution, the body should  
 ' return to its kindred dust, out of which  
 ' it was formed, and the soul to a sepa-  
 ' rate state of happiness or misery, accord-  
 ' ing as it acted in this probationary state  
 ' on earth. Having taken this view of man  
 ' in the abstract with all his wants and in-  
 ' firmities, the Muses, last of all, gave  
 ' their disciple a thorough insight into the  
 ' human race in society, where, by the  
 ' goodness of the first author of all things,  
 ' these very deficiencies of individuals united  
 ' the whole species, and the mutual sup-  
 ' ply of each others wants linked all de-  
 ' grees into one irrefragable chain together,  
 ' each different part of which reciprocally  
 ' depended upon the other from the be-  
 ' ginning to the end. They taught him  
 ' too, by way of amusement, the use and  
 ' power of music, painting and poetry,  
 ' the first of which could assuage mental  
 ' agony; the second revive past pleasures  
 ' in beholding beautiful objects; and the  
 ' third inspire by a true love of virtue, by  
 ' perpetuating the revered memory of  
 ' those who had been ornaments to  
 ' our species. *Eudoxus*, being at length  
 ' quite accomplished in every art and sci-  
 ' ence, became enamoured of one of the  
 ' Graces, who returned his passion with  
 ' mutual ardor. One day they took an  
 ' opportunity, whilst the other two were  
 ' busied in sporting with *Flora* and her  
 ' train of Zephyrs, to gratify their de-  
 ' sires in a cave of mount *Ida*. The off-  
 ' spring of their embraces was a daughter,  
 ' whom the fond parents named *Calocaga-*  
 ' *thia*. This nymph, who inherited all  
 ' the knowledge of her father, and all the  
 ' charms of her mother, became, as she  
 ' grew up, the chief favourite both of  
 ' Gods and men. In the celestial banquets  
 ' she always sat next to *Venus*, and on earth

' had the honour attributed to her of in-  
 ' spiring whatever was uncommonly beau-  
 ' tiful in morals, arts, and sciences.'

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*The FLEECE: a Poem. In four Books.*  
 By JOHN DYER, LL.B. 4s *Dodgley*.

A Poem, by the author of the ruins of  
*Rome*, cannot fail to be acceptable to  
 the public; and Mr. *Dyer* has by no means  
 fallen short of himself, on this occasion,  
 but on the contrary has added to his re-  
 putation. It is a rule in *Didactic* poetry  
 to chuse an interesting subject; thus a very  
 judicious critic observes, doctor *Armstrong*  
 made choice of *Health* for his subject, and  
 thus doctor *Aikenside* made choice of a  
 subject without which health were insipid,  
*viz.* *The Pleasures of Imagination*. *The*  
*Fleece*, in like manner, is a subject interest-  
 ing in its nature to all *Englishmen*, because  
 it happens to be our grand staple commo-  
 dity. At first sight it does not promise any  
 extraordinary matter, but seems rather an  
 unfruitful topic. But let the reader only  
 cast his eye over the argument prefixed to  
 each book, and he will be convinced that  
 Mr. *Dyer* has opened a variety of paths of  
 reflection, which shew that he has consi-  
 dered his subject in the most enlarged and  
 comprehensive view. There is not a cir-  
 cumstance but what he has touched upon,  
 and he has made many fine digressions  
 growing unexpectedly out of his subject.  
 The description of Sheep-sheering is finely  
 imagined, and the song introduced on that  
 occasion gives us a pleasing image of ru-  
 ral life. Mr. *Addison* observes in his es-  
 say on *Virgil's Georgics*, that *There are se-*  
*veral ways of conveying the same truth*  
*to the mind of man; and to chuse the plea-*  
*santest of these ways, is that which chiefly*  
*distinguishes poetry from prose, and makes*  
*Virgil's rules of husbandry pleasanter to read*  
*than Varro's. Where the prose-writer tells*  
*us plainly what ought to be done; the poet*  
*often conceals the precept in the description,*  
*and represents his countryman performing*  
*the action in which he would instruct his*  
*reader: where the one sets out, as fully and*  
*distinctly as he can, all the parts of the*  
*truth, which he would communicate to us,*  
*the other singles out the most pleasing cir-*  
*cumstance of this truth, and so conveys the*  
*whole in a more diverting manner to the*  
*understanding.* We need not here quote  
 instances to shew that Mr. *Dyer* has had  
 this delicate address, our readers will per-  
 ceive



ceive it in every page of this poem. Besides these minuter beauties, his digressions are beautiful and entertaining to a very exquisite degree, and though they are frequent in each book, yet they are so artfully blended with the subject, that we hardly perceive the main design to stand still: such is the description of the wandering *Arabs* introduced to shew the advantages of an *English* shepherd. The passage is so beautiful that we shall transcribe it; after mentioning that the *Arabs* roam from plain to plain, he adds,

—No sweet fall of rain  
May there be heard; nor sweeter liquid  
lapse  
Of river, o'er the pebbles gliding by  
In murmurs: goaded by the rage of thirst,  
Daily they journey to the distant clefts  
Of craggy rocks, where gloomy palms  
o'erhang  
The ancient wells, deep sunk by toil im-  
mense,  
Toil of the patriarchs, with sublime intent  
Themselves and long posterity to serve.  
There, at the public hour of sultry noon,  
They share the be'erage, when to wat'ring  
come,  
And grateful umbrage, all the tribes a-  
round,  
And their lean flocks, whose various bleat-  
ings fill  
The echoing caverns: then is absent none,  
Fair nymph or shepherd, each inspiring each  
To wit, and song, and dance, and active  
feats;  
In the same rustic scene, where Jacob won  
Fair Rachael's bosom, when a rock's vast  
weight  
From the deep dark-mouth'd well his  
strength remov'd,  
And to her circling sheep refreshment gave.

The song at Sheep-sheering is likewise so pleasing that we cannot help inserting it.

—First arose in song  
Hoar-headed Damon, venerable swain,  
The soothest shepherd of the flow'ry vale.  
'This is no vulgar scene: no palace roof  
'Was e'er so lofty, nor so nobly rise  
'Their polish'd pillars, as these aged oaks,  
'Which o'er our fleecy wealth and harm-  
less sports  
'Thus have expanded wide their sheltering  
'arms,  
'Thrice told an hundred summers. Sweet  
'content,  
'Ye gentle shepherds, pillow us at night.'

'Yes, tuneful Damon, for our cares are  
short,  
'Rising and falling with the chearful day,'  
Colin reply'd, 'and pleasing weariness  
'Soon our unaching heads to sleep inclines.  
'Is it in cities so? where, poets tell,  
'The cries of sorrow sadden all the streets,  
'And the diseases of intemperate wealth.  
'Alas, that any ills from wealth should rise!  
'May the sweet Nightingale on yonder  
'spray,  
'May this clear stream, these lawns, those  
'snow-white lambs,  
'Which, with a pretty innocence of look,  
'Skip on the green, and race in little troops:  
'May that great lamp, which sinks behind  
'the hills,  
'And streams around variety of lights,  
'Recal them erring: this is Damon's wish.  
'Huge Breaden's stony summit once I  
'climb'd  
'After a kidding: Damon, what a scene!  
'What various views unnumber'd spread  
'beneath!  
'Woods, towers, vales, caves, dells, cliffs,  
'and torrent floods;  
'And here and there, between the spiry rocks,  
'The broad flat sea. Far nobler prospects  
'these,  
'Than gardens black with smoke in dusty  
'towns,  
'Where stenchy vapours often blot the sun:  
'Yet flying from his quiet, thither crouds  
'Each greedy wretch for tardy-rising wealth  
'Which comes too late; that courts the taste  
'in vain,  
'Or nauseates with distempers. Yes, ye  
'rich,  
'Still, still be rich, if thus ye fashion life;  
'And piping, careless, silly shepherds we;  
'We silly shepherds, all intent to feed  
'Our snowy flocks, and wind the sleeky  
'fleece.'  
'Deem not howe'er our occupation mean,'  
Damon reply'd, 'while the supreme ac-  
'counts  
'Well of the faithful shepherd, rank'd alike  
'With king and priest: they also shepherds  
'are;  
'For so th' All-seeing files them to remind  
'Elated man forgetful of his charge.'  
'But haste, begin the rites: see purple eve  
'Stretches her shadows: all ye nymphs and  
'swains  
'Hither assemble. Pleas'd with honours due,  
'Sabrina, guardian of the crystal flood,  
'Shall bless our cares, when she by moon-  
'light clear  
'Skims o'er the dales, and eyes our sleeping  
'folds:

'Or

' Or in hoar caves, around Plynlimmon's  
     ' brow,  
 ' Where precious min'rals dart their purple  
     ' gleams,  
 ' Among her sisters she reclines; the lov'd  
 ' Vaga, profuse of graces, Ryddol rough,  
 ' Blith Ystwith, and Clevedoc swift of foot;  
 ' And mingles various seeds of flowers and  
     ' herbs  
 ' In the divided torrents, ere they burst  
 ' Through the dark clouds, and down the  
     ' mountain roll.  
 ' Nor taint-worm shall infect the yeanning  
     ' herds,  
 ' Nor penny-grass, nor spearwort's poisonous  
     ' leaf.

In giving an account of a poem abounding with so many beauties, it would too much enlarge the boundaries of these criticisms, if we were to multiply instances of the author's taste; we shall therefore content ourselves with transcribing another passage, which is skilfully introduced, and is perfectly in the manner of the antient poets, who never fail to snatch any opportunity of describing a picture, a piece of sculpture, or the works of the loom. Having mentioned the manufacture of Tapestry, our author seizes the occasion to describe the tapestries of *Blenheim*, an account of which cannot fail to please those of our readers, who have seen them, and those who have not had that pleasure.

They too the many-colour'd Arras taught  
 To mimic nature, and the airy shapes  
 Of sporty fancy: such as oft appear  
 In old Mosaic pavements, when the plough  
 Up-turns the crumbling glebe of Weldon field;  
 Or that, o'er-shaded erst by Woodstock's bow'r,  
 Now grac'd by Blenheim, in whose stately  
     rooms  
 Rise glowing tapestries, that lure the eye  
 With Marlborough's wars; here Schellen-  
     bergh exults,  
 Behind surrounding hills of ramparts steep,  
 And vales of trenches dark; each hideous  
     pass  
 Armies defend; yet on the hero leads  
 His Britons, like a torrent, o'er the mounds,  
 Another scene is Blenheim's glorious field,  
 And the red Danube. Here, the rescu'd  
     states  
 Crouding beneath his shield: there, Ramillies'  
 Important battle: next the tenfold chain  
 Of Arleux burst, and th' adamantine gates  
 Of Gaul flung open to the tyrant's throne.  
 A shade obscures the rest.—Ah! then what  
     power

Invidious from the lifted sickle snatch'd  
 The harvest of the plain? so lively glows  
 The air delusion, that our passions rise  
 In the beholding, and the glories share  
 Of visionary battle. This bright art  
 Did zealous Europe learn of pagan hands,  
 While she essay'd with rage of holy war  
 To desolate their fields: but old the skill:  
 Long were the Phrygians' pict'ring looms  
     renown'd;  
 Tyre also, wealthy seat of arts, excell'd,  
 And elder Sidon, in th' historic web.

Were we to direct our Readers to all the passages, that appear to us, poetically treated, we should transcribe the greater part of the arguments prefixed to the four books; we shall therefore close this article with observing that Mr. Dyer has added a very elegant Didactic poem to those admirable ones which we already have in the *English* language, such as *Health* by doctor *Armstrong*; *Cyder* by Mr. *Phillips*; and *Thompson's Seasons*: Mr. *Pope's* are of another sort, and do not admit such frequent insertions of rural imagery, being chiefly concerned about our most abstracted ideas, and therefore we think they should not be numbered with those of the *Georgic* kind.

DOUGLAS, a Tragedy, as it is acted at the Theatre Royal in Covent-Garden. Millar.

*Non ego sum vates, sed prisca conscius ævi.*

THIS piece bears a resemblance in some of the circumstances to the famous tragedy of *Merope* of *Maffei* in *Italian*, and *Voltaire* in *French*, and hath been pronounced by Mr. *David Hume*, author of many ingenious essays, and of the history of *Great Britain*, to be greatly superior to both. We shall not take up the time of our readers with a controversy concerning this decision of that justly admired writer, but shall leave that matter to the discussion of those extraordinary pamphleteers who have drawn their quills on the occasion. One of them, in a letter to Mr. *David Hume*, is a warm partizan for the the superior excellence of *Douglas*, and seems violently enraged that any man should appeal from the decree to his own judgment; he runs a muck at some other modern plays (one of them, we think, of no inconsiderable value) and he tilts at Mr. *Garrick* for having refused it, though it is acknowledged that many alterations for the better



better have been made since it was in his hands. His antagonist, on the other hand, treats the play with great contempt, is studious to point out blemishes, aggravates errors, heightens faults into enormities, and *utroque pollice* condemns the piece to die. To these two zealous disputants we chuse to leave full possession of this argument, and shall proceed to give an account of the story or fable, to which we shall beg leave to annex some notes, in which we neither desire to cry out *pulchrè, benè rectè*, at every word on the one hand, nor *insule, crasse, illepide*, on the other, but shall impartially speak our sentiments of the performance.

The Fable of the Tragedy of Douglas.

The first act opens with the grief of lady *Randolph*, which she tells us she has pretended was occasioned by the untimely death of her brother, though in fact it is owing to the loss of her husband, *Douglas*, to whom she had been secretly married, and by whom she had bore a son, conveyed away in privacy, and never since heard of. This incident happened as follows. Lady *Randolph's* brother had saved the life of young *Douglas* in battle, which gave birth to an inviolable friendship between both heroes, even though an implacable animosity subsisted between the houses of *Malcolm* and *Douglas*. The heir of the latter family, under a borrowed name, went to see young *Malcolm's* sister, whose heart he won, and married her in her brother's presence. In about three weeks after which young *Douglas* was called away to his father's battles, attended by young *Malcolm*, where they both perished. Sir *Malcolm* alarmed in the mean time, with a rumour of her marriage, questions his daughter, with a naked sword in his hand, concerning the report, and equivocally she swears never to wed one of *Douglas's* name. Her grief was excessive for the loss of her husband untimely slain, but, to colour the deceit, she pretended it to be solely occasioned by the death of her brother.

In the midst of her afflictions, she was compelled to marry *Randolph*, by which, it seems, she was saved from the arms of *Glenalvon*, a deep-designing villain, and next heir to Lord *Randolph*, who still persisted to entertain a passion for her person, and in order to assure success and prevent his being disinherited by him in case of a discovery, has hired a set of assassins to murder *Randolph*.

In the second act we find that *Glenalvon's*  
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plot has proved abortive, the four assassins being defeated by a young man, a stranger in those parts of the country, who generously interposed, and put two of them to death, the other two saving themselves by flight. The account this young man gives of himself, is, that his name is *Norval*, son of a shepherd in the *Grampian* hills: he had heard of battles, and being successful in a skirmish with robbers, was determined to join the troops then assembling from all parts to repel a *Danish* invasion, with which they were threatened. On which lord *Randolph* observes that he is as wise as brave, and determines to introduce him to the king; and lady *Randolph*, on her part, resolves to chuse him for her knight. *Glenalvon*, who dissembles his knowing any thing of the conspiracy, informs lady *Randolph* that he has sent to pursue the villains who escaped; whereupon she has a counsel for his private ear, in which she informs him that at his peril he must not practice against the youthful stranger, whom they have resolved to entertain in the highest esteem. *Glenalvon* immediately conceives this young man to be a rival, on which he resolves to meditate some further scheme of mischief.

In the third act, an old man, taken in the woods, is brought in before lady *Randolph*, charged with being an accomplice in the intended murder. But the hoary stranger assures them all that he knows no more of it than the child unborn, and then proceeds to tell lady *Randolph* that about eighteen years ago he rented land of Sir *Malcolm*, but being turned out, he took shelter in a little hovel by the river side. It happened on a stormy night that he heard the cry of one in distress, and running forth to give his assistance, the person that cried was lost, but he perceived a basket, which he drew to the bank, and in it found a child, with gold and jewels stowed in with the infant. Glad of the booty, he travelled to the north, to avoid being discovered, and bred up the boy as his own son. Being asked his name, he says it is *Norval*, which, with the circumstances of the story, convinces lady *Randolph* that the youth whom she had seen a little before, was her own son. Enraptured with the discovery, she sends the old man to a safe retreat, that he may be ready to answer when called up as a witness of this fact before the king and peers. She then determines to see her son in private, when *Glenalvon* enters with intelligence that the *Danes* are landed. He then plays the hypocriet



Pocrite with lady *Randolph*, promises his protection to the young stranger, and a little after, in a soliloquy, he determines to make Sir *Malcolm* jealous, and to this end, it appears, he has bribed a slave, who followed young *Norval*, to say and swear whatever his suggested to him.

In the beginning of the fourth act, young *Norval*, (now known to be young *Douglas*) informs lord and lady *Randolph* that he acquired his military skill from an hermit in the north, who had formerly been a soldier, and had served in the holy wars; but having unconsciously killed his brother in a rencounter, he resolved to retire from the world. After which lord *Randolph* is called away to greet *John of Lorn*, who was then leading his clan to the camp, and refused to come in that he might not lose time; then lady *Randolph* takes an opportunity to discover herself to her son; and gives him her directions to go and receive a billet from the slave who followed him, in which she had appointed a place for another interview; then, with some cautionary hints concerning *Glenalvon*, she dismisses him. Upon which lord *Randolph* and *Glenalvon* enter; but the lady going away impatiently, her husband, who had already taken in the infection of jealousy, construes her hurry into a proof of her guilt; in which notion he is confirmed by *Glenalvon*, who had given the billet already mentioned, which easily bears the appearance of an assignation. Then by *Glenalvon*'s advice, he resolves to send the billet by the slave to young *Norval* (or *Douglas*) and to stand behind a thicket in order to see their behaviour at the place of rendezvous. *Glenalvon*, to confirm *Randolph*'s suspicions proposes to try the young man's temper: if he is favoured by the fair sex, he says, he'll turn upon him as a lion turns upon the hunter's spear. In consequence of this proposal, high words ensue between this artful villain and *Douglas*, who, full of personal bravery, and the conscious pride of knowing who he is, displays great gallantry of spirit; and when they are upon the point of fighting lord *Randolph* interposes, and makes them both promise to defer the decision of their private quarrel till the enemies of their country are vanquished.

In the fifth act, young *Douglas* comes to the place appointed by his mother, where he meets old *Norval*: after an interview with him, by which he learns that lord *Randolph* and *Glenalvon* are lurking somewhere about the wood, vowing

revenge against him, his mother comes, to whom he mentions what he had just heard: lady *Randolph* alarmed, advises him to fly to the camp to lord *Douglas*, which he at length agrees to; and as the mother is pointing out the path which leads to the camp, *Randolph* enters with *Glenalvon*, and resolves immediately to follow him. While he is engaged with *Douglas*, *Glenalvon* resolves on both their deaths, and in the fray wounds young *Douglas*, who, having disarmed lord *Randolph* turns upon him and puts him to death. The mother alarmed, returns; her son meets her with two swords in his hand, and mentions how he was attacked behind by *Glenalvon*, and that he killed him. She then perceives the wound in his back, which proves mortal, and in a little time he expires; and the mother faints upon the dead body. Then lord *Randolph* enters with *Anna*, his wife's confidant, and having heard that the youth was *Douglas*, he expresses the strongest affliction. The mother then coming to herself, resolves not to survive the loss of her son, and accordingly she runs off in the wildest despair. Old *Norval* then enters and weeps over the dead body: his lamentation being over, we learn from *Anna*, who pursued her mistress, that lady *Randolph* has flung herself from a precipice into a river: on which lord *Randolph* orders their funeral, and goes off to join the king's troops against the *Danes*, from whence he hopes he never shall return: which closes the tragedy.

*Notes on the foregoing Play.*

*The PLOT.*

Though the action of this piece is justly simple, the author has endeavoured to give intricacy and complication to the conduct of it: But, we think, the business is rather too thin, and not productive of a sufficient number of incidents to enliven the attention of an audience. Is there not something unnatural in the circumstance of lady *Randolph*'s pretending to wear weeds on the anniversary of a brother's death, who had perished eighteen years before! and why at this particular time should she choose to reveal her mind to her confidant, from whom she had concealed the secret for so long a time? There should, we apprehend, have been some apparent motive for her determining on a sudden to discover the circumstances of her story to *Anna* at that period more than any other. *Glenalvon* comes in too regularly at the close of almost every act, and is too frequent in soliloquy. No use is made of the *Danish* invasion;



vation; and tho' we hear of it very often it does not conduce to any striking event. Would it not have been better not to have made lady *Randolph* guilty of suicide, as she might have expired with grief over her dead son, and then the close would have been more pathetic.

#### The CHARACTERS.

Lady *Randolph* is an amiable character: Her strong maternal love, her conjugal affection, and her spirited virtue are all strongly marked. We cannot think her lord is a very advantageous character; his temper seems too resigned, and his requiring nothing of his wife but complacence is rather unnatural, *Glenalvon* is better drawn in the following lines,

*Anna.* Why speaks my lady thus of *Randolph's* heir?

*Lady Ran.* Because' he's not the heir of *Randolph's* virtues.

Subtle and shrewd, he offers to mankind  
An artificial image of himself:  
And he with ease can vary to the taste  
Of different men, it's features. Self-denied,  
And master of his appetites he seems:  
But his fierce nature, like a fox chain'd up,  
Watches to seize unseen the wish'd-for prey.  
Never were vice and virtue pois'd so ill,  
As in *Glenalvon's* unrelenting mind.  
Yet is he brave and politic in war,  
And stands aloft in these unruly times.

Young *Douglas* is also well drawn; filial piety, heroic fortitude, and intrepid virtue are his characteristics. Were we to give the preference to any of the portaitures we should declare old *Norval* the shepherd to be our favorite. He is a perfect Image of rural simplicity, and there is a naivety in manners which has not been excelled on the stage.

#### The DICTION.

Our author never writes with a disregard of nature, and therefore his language seldom or never rises to the bombast: It is generally easy, pure, and at the same time elegant; but as vices and virtues often border closely upon one another, so in this composition we occasionally find what was intended for a beauty running into the opposite extreme, and becoming a blemish. For instance, we think that in endeavouring to be natural and unadorned in his phrase, he occasionally becomes mean and too familiar. Of this defect take the following instances.

Every warrior on the tiptoe stands  
Of expectation.—

—By the most blessed cross  
You much amaze me.

I know no more than does the child unborn  
As I hope for mercy, &c.

—Honey'd assent  
How pleasing art thou to the taste of man,  
—And woman also.

Does not woman come in with the air  
of *Anticlimax*?

Opes the wicket of the human heart

—Such a son,  
And such a husband make a woman bold.

But as *Dryden* says;

Errors like straws upon the surface flow,  
He who would seek for pearls must dive below.

We shall not therefore endeavour to look out for the little blemishes as we have more pleasure in observing the real beauties, which we have observed under the following Head.

#### The SENTIMENTS.

Our author generally adapts his sentiments with great propriety to the character, besides which they have the additional beauty of being often exquisitely delicate in the conception, and are happily delivered in very pure and elegant language. The following passages selected from many others will shew our author's merit in this respect.

Lady *Randolph* opens the play in a fine vein of melancholy.

*Ye woods and wilds, whose melancholy  
gloom  
Accords with my soul's sadness, and draws  
forth*

*The voice of sorrow from my bursting heart,  
Farewell a while: I will not leave you long;  
For in your shades I deem some spirit dwells,  
Who from the chiding stream, or groaning oak,  
Still hears, and answers to Matilda's moan.  
O Douglas! Douglas! if departed ghosts  
Are e'er permitted to review this world,  
Within the circle of that wood thou art,  
And with the passion of immortals bear'st  
My lamentation: bear'st thy wretched wife  
Weep for her husband slain, her infant lost.  
My brother's timeless death I seem to mourn;  
Who peris'd with thee on this fatal day.  
To thee I lift my voice; to thee address  
The plaint which mortal ear has never heard.  
O disregard me not; tho' I am call'd  
Another's now, my heart is wholly thine.*

When she tells us that she had taken an  
T 2 oath

oath equivocal her reflection is very beautiful.

———Sincerity

Thou first of virtues, let no mortal leave  
Thy onward path! altho' the earth should  
    gape,  
And from the gulph of hell destruction cry  
To take dissimulation's winding way.

Young Norval (or Douglas) gives a pleasing account of himself.

My name is Norval; on the Grampian hills  
My father feeds his flocks; a frugal swain,  
Whose constant cares were to increase his  
    store,

And keep his only son, myself, at home.  
For I had heard of battles, and I long'd  
To follow to the field some warlike lord;  
And heaven soon granted what my fire deny'd.  
This moon, which rose last night, round as  
    my shield,

Had, not yet fill'd her horns, when by her  
    light,

A band of fierce barbarians, from the hills,  
Rush'd like a torrent down upon the vale,  
Sweeping our flocks and herds. The shep-  
    herds fled,

For safety, and for succour. I alone,  
With bended bow, and quiver full of arrows.  
Hover'd about the enemy, and mark'd  
The road he took, then hasted to my friends;  
Whom, with a troop of fifty chosen men,  
I met advancing. The pursuit I led,  
Till we o'ertook the spoil incumber'd foe.  
We fought and conquer'd. E'er a sword was  
    drawn.

An arrow from my bow had pierc'd their  
    chief,

Who wore that day the arms which now I  
    wear,

Old Norval's tale is elegantly simple;

Some eighteen years ago, I rented land  
Of brave Sir Malcolm, then Balarmo's lord;  
But falling to decay, his servants seiz'd  
All that I had, and then turn'd me and mine.  
(Four helpless infants and their weeping  
    mother)

Out to the mercy of the winter winds.  
A little hovel by the river's side  
Receiv'd us: there hard labour, and the skill  
In fishing, which was formerly my sport,  
Supported life. Whilst thus we poorly liv'd,  
One stormy night, as I remember well,  
The wind and rain beat hard upon our roof:  
Red came the river down, and loud and oft  
The angry spirit of the water shriek'd.  
At the dead hour of night was heard the cry  
Of one in jeopardy. I rose, and ran  
To where the circling eddy of a pool

Beneath the ford, us'd oft to bring within  
My reach whatever floating thing the  
    stream

Had caught. The voice was ceas'd; the  
    person lost:

But looking sad and earnest on the waters,  
By the moon's light I saw, whirl'd round  
    and round,

A basket: soon I drew it to the bank,  
And nestled curious there an infant lay.

Lady Randolph's reflections on the fate  
of the Danish women, when they shall hear  
of the slaughter shortly to be made, are  
finely adapted to the character.

How many mothers shall bewail their sons!  
How many widows weep their husbands  
    slain!

Ye dames of Denmark! ev'n for you I feel,  
Who, sadiy sitting on the sea-beat shore,  
Long look for lords that never shall return.

The account of the Hermit must please  
every person of taste;

Beneath a mountain's brow, the most remote  
And inaccessible by shepherds trod,  
In a deep cave, dug by no mortal hand,  
A hermit liv'd; a melancholy man,  
Who was the wonder of our wand'ring  
    swains.

Austere and lonely, cruel to himself,  
Did they report him; the cold earth his bed,  
Water his drink, his food the shepherds alms.  
I went to see him, and my heart was touch'd  
With reverence and pity. Mild he spake,  
And, entering on discourse, such stories told  
As made me oft revisit his sad cell.  
For he had been a soldier in his youth.

And again;

In the wild desert on a rock he sits,  
Or on some nameless stream's untrodden  
    banks,

And ruminates all day his dreadful fate.  
At times, alas! not in his perfect mind!  
Holds dialogues with his lov'd brother's ghost.  
And oft each night forsakes his sullen couch,  
To make sad orisons for him he slew.

The following description is picturesque  
and well introduced;

This is the place, the centre of the grove.  
Here stands the oak, the monarch of the wood.  
How sweet and solemn is this midnight  
    scene?

The silver moon, unclouded holds her way  
Thro' skies where I could count each little star.  
The fanning west wind scarcely stirs the  
    leaves;

The river, rushing o'er its pebbled bed,

The



*Imposes silence with a stilly sound.  
In such a place as this, at such an hour,  
If ancestry can be in ought believ'd  
Descending spirits have convers'd with man  
And told the secrets of the world unknown.*

But not to multiply instances, we must pronounce that the author of *Douglas* seems to have a correcter taste for the Dramatic art, than any writer that has appeared of late, and from a poet who has given so good a first performance, we may expect that he will rise higher in some future composition, and give us further proofs of that excellent genius, which he seems to possess.

*An Account of the SAMOEIDS, from Isbrand Ided the Russian Ambassador to China.  
As also of the Americans about the straits of Magellan.*

After having given a description of the northern people which bear some resemblance to each other, it will not be improper to add that of the *Samoeides*, from the only authentic account we have of these barbarians.

These people inhabit the icy coast of the province of *Siberia*, and can pretend to little more of humanity than the external shape. They have a very small share of understanding, and in some things resemble wolves and dogs; for they feed on all manner of dead carcases of animals that have died a natural death; such as horses, asses, dogs and cats; besides whales, sea-cows, sea-calves, &c. which are forced upon the shore by the ice. And these they never trouble their heads about dressing, but eat them all raw. Notwithstanding which they inhabit a country which abounds with wild game, fish and flesh; but they are too lazy to be at the trouble of providing themselves with them. They have a sort of governors among them, to whom they pay tribute, who are answerable for it to the *Russian* government.

They are shocking, disagreeable, ill-look'd people, who dress much in the same manner as the *Laplanders*, in skins with the hairy side outermost. Their stature is short and squat; they have broad shoulders and faces, flat and broad noses, great blubber hanging lips, with frightful eyes like those of the lynx: their skins are brown all over, with rugged, dishevelled hair, generally as black as pitch, though here and there one has it of a red or light colour: they travel in sledges like the *Laplanders*, but they are of a different make: they are likewise drawn by deer with horns, like a

roe-buck, and crooked hanging necks like a camel: in winter they are as white as snow, and in the summer they are grey; some call them rain-deer, but by the descriptions they are unlike in several particulars: however they feed upon the moss which grows on the ground in the woods.

Their huts or tents are covered with pieces of birch-bark sewed together, and when they remove, as they frequently do, in all seasons of the year, they set up poles in a circle with the small ends together at the top, and cover them with bark, leaving a hole at the top for the passage of the smoke: they make the fire in the middle of the hut, round which they lie at nights, both men and women quite naked: they lay their children in a sort of boxes which serve for cradles, in which they lay the soft shavings of wood.

They have little or no regard to consanguinity in their marriages, and like other barbarous nations, are never contented with one wife. At their merry makings, instead of singing they make a howling noise, in which they seem to imitate the cries of different kinds of beasts. However they have some cunning fellows among them, who, by their juggling tricks, impose upon the rest. These by ignorant or designing travellers, have been said to be very familiar with the devil, who enables them to play a thousand different pranks. But this is now no more believed than that the *Laplanders* are able to sell winds, a circumstance of which has been seriously related by some of our sailors.

The resemblance between these different people is so great, it is no wonder that their religion should be much the same, for they seem to pay a sort of adoration to the sun and moon, and bow their bodies to it night and morning. They have likewise idols which hang on trees, and humane figures in wood, to which they shew some respect. There have been some attempts to civilize these people as well as the *Laplanders*, but they are so wedded to their old customs, and are so hard to be taught that it is no easy matter to make them thorough converts to christianity.

And here we cannot help taking notice of a mistake of the bishop of *Berghen*, who, in his natural history of *Norway*, speaking of the *Laplanders*, says the extremes of heat and cold occasion the dark colour of the skin. Hence it is plain, that he never considered the inhabitants of *America*, who are all of a copper colour from one end of *America* to the other, except



except the *Eskimeaux*. We mean the native *Indians*, not those who are descended from a mixture of *Europeans*, with the original inhabitants. This we can affirm, partly from our own experience, and partly from the concurrent testimony of all voyagers. Some have thought this peculiar complexion owing to the air, which cannot be true, for upon examining some who have been clothed from their infancy we found to be the colour of bright red copper. *Indians*, who have little or no clothes have a custom of daubing themselves all over with grease, which gives them a dark hue, which has occasioned some to say they were of an olive complexion, but this however is not natural. These *Indians* seem to be all descended from the same parents: but whether they came here soon after the flood as *Charlevoix* thinks, or before it as the present Bishop of *Clogher* believes, we cannot pretend to determine. Though there is one thing which seems to favour the Bishop's opinion, that the animals of *America* are almost all different from those of *Europe*, *Asia*, and *Africa*. [See *Bouguers Account of Peru in our last Magazine*.]

Another argument to prove that they all proceeded from one common stock might be taken from some peculiarities belonging to these *Indians*, for they have all coarse black hair, and no beards, besides, they have no hair on their breasts, under their arm-pits, nor on any other parts of their bodies. We know the old story of the women being employed to pluck the men's beards &c. up by the roots, which has been handed from one author to another, time out of mind. But this may be refuted by experience; for though the *Turks* both men and women, use a caustic composition to take off the hairs, yet it does not prevent its growing again, and they are forc'd to repeat it as often as it repulates. However the latest and most sensible travellers all agree that this is nothing but a mere fiction; as we can likewise affirm from our examination and experience. Hence it is evident, that the climate only is not the cause of the peculiar complexion of any people whatever. Besides every one may observe, that Blacks will be Blacks, let them live in what country they will; and that the descendants of the Negroes from *Africa* will have woolly heads though they are born in the very middle of a temperate Zone.

But lest some may imagine that what

has been said may not be true of the *Indians* in the most southern parts of *America*, we shall give you Sir *John Warbrough's* account of those near the straits of *Magellan* in his own words. These people, says he, are of a middle stature both men and women, well-limbed, roundish faced, and well-shaped with low foreheads. Their noses are of the mean size, their eyes of the mean and black. They are smooth, and even toothed and close set, and very white; small ears. Their hair is smooth flag hair, and very black and harsh on the fore part, even and round; and the locks of a mean length, both men and women alike. They are full breasted; they are tawny-olive coloured, and redded all over their bodies, with red earth and grease; their faces dawbed in spots down their cheeks, with white clay, and black streaks with smut, in no method. Their arms and feet are alike; they have small heads and short fingers; they are active in body and nimble in going and running; their clothing is pieces of skins of Seals and Guananoes and Otters skins sewed together, and sewed soft. Their garment is in form of a carpet, of about five feet square; or according to the largeness of the person; this they wrap about their bodies as a *Scottish* man does his pladding. They have a cap of the skins of fowls with the feathers on. They have about their feet pieces of skins tied, to keep their feet from the ground. They are a very hardy people to endure cold; for they seldom wear their loose skin when they are stirring: but are all naked of body from head to feet, and do not shrink at the weather; for it was very cold when I saw them, and the hills all covered with snow. They have no hair on their bodies or faces, nor any thing to cover their privy parts, excepting some of the women, which had a skin before them; otherwise the men and women are clothed alike, only the men have caps and the women none. The women wear braceletts of shells about their necks, the men none. The men are somewhat larger than the women in stature, and fuller faced. The men have a harsh language, and speak rattling in the throat and gross; the women, shriller and lower. They pronounce the word *Ursah*, but what it means I could not understand, nor one word they spake. If they did not like any thing they would cry *Ur, Ur*, rattling in their throats. Their food is what they can get, either fish or flesh. They are under no government, but every one doth



as he thinks fit: for they had no respect to any one, nor under any obedience to any in the company, neither did they make any shew of worshipping any thing, either sun or moon, but came directly to us on our first going on land, making a noise, and every one his bow ready sprung, and two arrows a man in their hands. Their bows are about an ell long and their arrows are near eighteen inches long, and neatly made of wood and headed with flint stones, neatly made, broad arrow fashion, well fastened to the arrow; and the other end feathered with two feathers, and tied on with the gut of some beast when it is green and moist. The bow-string is some twisted gut.

This account, you see, is wrote in the stile of a sailor, and in one or two places is a little obscure; but we did not think proper to make any alterations therein. However, we cannot help observing that we should have had a better description of the inhabitants of the most distant parts of the world, had voyagers, like Sir *John*, related nothing but what they had seen themselves. Most of these people are very fond of the marvellous, for which reason they stuff their relations, with the strangest stories they can pick up, and rather than be thought defective in their accounts, will take many things from other authors, and adopt them for their own. Hence systematical writers in geography, who have seen little of the world themselves have been imposed upon, and have so mingled error with truth, that we have not had one good treatise of that kind hitherto published. Perhaps the account we have given of the colour of the *Americans* may seem strange to some who have not enquired minutely into this matter; tho' it is a thing well known to every judicious naturalist. Thus *Linæus* distinguishes mankind by their colours, and calls the *Europeans* white, the *Americans* reddish, the *Asiatics* brown, and the *Africans* black.

#### A R E F L E C T I O N.

THE papers of the day are not only a daily amusement, but a daily lesson in life; every paper is a sort of tragedy that represents the different distresses and pursuits of mankind; each compiler is a picturesque historian that presents you with something to laugh at, and something to bewail; and their compilations, though a chaos of confused matter promiscuously jumbled together are aptly expressive of

the miseries and follies of mankind.

In one of the papers of this day you will find the following melancholy account. "We hear from *Cumberland*, that corn is so scarce there that people actually die for want of bread: and that a poor widow and two children, after living some time on grains and bran, were found dead one morning; the children had straw in their mouths. It was thought that the stopping of the malt-distillery for a time, would have reduced the price of corn; but this, it seems, was an oversight, for while the distillers stand still at home, they are very industrious in the corn-markets, buying up large stocks of grain, in order to resume their business at the expiration of the prohibition: so that we cannot but humbly presume the prohibition, ought to have extended to their buying any corn, as well as to their extracting spirits from it."

At a catastrophe so affecting as that of a family perishing for want of food in a land of plenty, we should pause—and we should weep—was not the eye attracted, and our indignation raised by this paragraph which immediately follows it.

"'Tis imagined there will be the greatest concourse of nobility and gentry, &c. this week at *Newmarket* races, that has been known for many years past, their being several first-rate horses to start."

The apprehension of many families perishing in extremity of pain, for want of sustenance, while those who have money enough already, are wresting their bread from them in order to get more, joined to this consideration, that great people who should be the guardians of the poor, are wasting their time and their money at *Newmarket*, and gambling perhaps with their own grooms, maugre the calamities both of famine and of war, is enough to make an *Englishman* forget himself, and wish to be any where rather than in his own country.

April 11, 1757.

From the *London Evening Post*.

To the People of England.

AS it is the duty of every individual, in a commonwealth, to do his utmost for, and in support of, the whole; I cannot but offer my thoughts to you on the present important crisis of your affairs. The shameful Loss of *Minorca*; the total neglect of your colonies; the unconstitutional introduction of a foreign army into the king-



kingdom; the great want of a proper militia; together with the intolerable profusion of your money in subsidies to foreign princes; in fruitless parades at home, and in many corrupt measures subversive of your constitution, having lately prevailed upon you to address his sacred Majesty for an enquiry into the conduct of the late administration; into the real cause of the loss of *Minorca*, and the distressed situation of your affairs; and his majesty having been graciously pleased to promise you, that such enquiry should be made, and justice done to All, who should be found wanting in their duty to him and to his country; and having also, in consequence thereof, displaced those persons you so justly complained of, and put the management of your affairs into the hands of gentlemen of the greatest abilities, and strictest integrity; you were, no doubt, in great expectation of seeing the guilty persons soon brought to justice, and your distressed circumstances relieved. And it is not to be denied, but that, in the short space of time the present gentlemen have had the management of your affairs, they have, considering the constant opposition they have met with from the creatures of the late administration, done all that was possible for men to do, and greatly mended the face of your affairs. They have, according to your desires, begun an enquiry into the real cause of the loss of *Minorca*: They have taken the most proper and most vigorous measures to support your colonies, and to bring the war in *America* to a short and happy issue: They have sent away the foreign army: They have procured a bill to pass the house of commons for the regulation of the militia: They have begun a saving in the expences of government, by vacating useless offices: Nay, indeed, they have given a most glorious proof of their integrity and zeal for your service, by declaring publicly, they were ready to serve you without any pay or salary at all. Your navy never was so well paid, nor so properly employed, as now; and none but men of courage and true merit, have been, by them, promoted to the command of his majesty's ships. But alas! just as the sun of prosperity begins to dawn upon you and your affairs; just as the day of enquiry is approaching in order to do justice on those, who have so grossly injured you, it is confidently reported, that your faithful, and uncorrupt administrators are to be removed! The reasons for such removal is said to be, because they are averse to expeditions on the continent; because they are against sending a body of *British* troops abroad, to

cover foreign dominions. But though it is not improbable but that may be one reason; yet, I apprehend, it is not the only one: May not the dread of that enquiry, which you have desired be another. May not the saving which is begun by taking away useless offices, and curtailing extravagant salaries, have given an alarm to the creatures of the late corrupt administration, and be also another reason for such removal? But though the removal of the present most excellent administration is most confidently asserted; yet I confess to you, I know not how to give it full credit; not only because they have acted so greatly for your interests; but because I am at a loss how to reconcile it with the royal promise.

However, should such a fatal change take place, let me conjure you, not to suffer your resentments to rise too high, nor exceed the bounds of obedience: But let humble petitions, and addresses to the throne, at once declare your duty, your grievances, and your desires.

#### Description of the ELEPHANT BEETLE.

**T**HIS Insect is the largest and most uncommon of the Beetle kind that is found in any country we hitherto are acquainted with. It is a native of *Guiana* in *South America*, and is to be met with in *Surinam* and about the river *Oroonoko*. It is black, and the whole body is covered with a very hard shell, full as thick and as strong as a small crab. Its length from the hind part to the eyes is three inches, seven tenths; and from the same part to the end of the Proboscis or trunk four inches, and six tenths. The transverse diameter of the body is two Inches and a quarter, and the breadth of each Elytron or case for the wings is an inch and three tenths. What are called the Antennæ, horns or feelers in other insects are immovable and quite horny; for which reason the Proboscis or trunk is moveable at its insertion into the head, and seems to supply the place of feelers. The horns are eight tenths of an inch long and terminates in a point. The Proboscis is an inch and quarter long, and turns upwards making a crooked line, terminating in two short hoans, each almost a quarter of an inch in length, but they are not perforated at the ends like the Proboscis of other insects.

About four eighths of an inch above the head, on that side of the trunk next the body, is a prominence or small horn, which if the rest of the trunk were away, would cause



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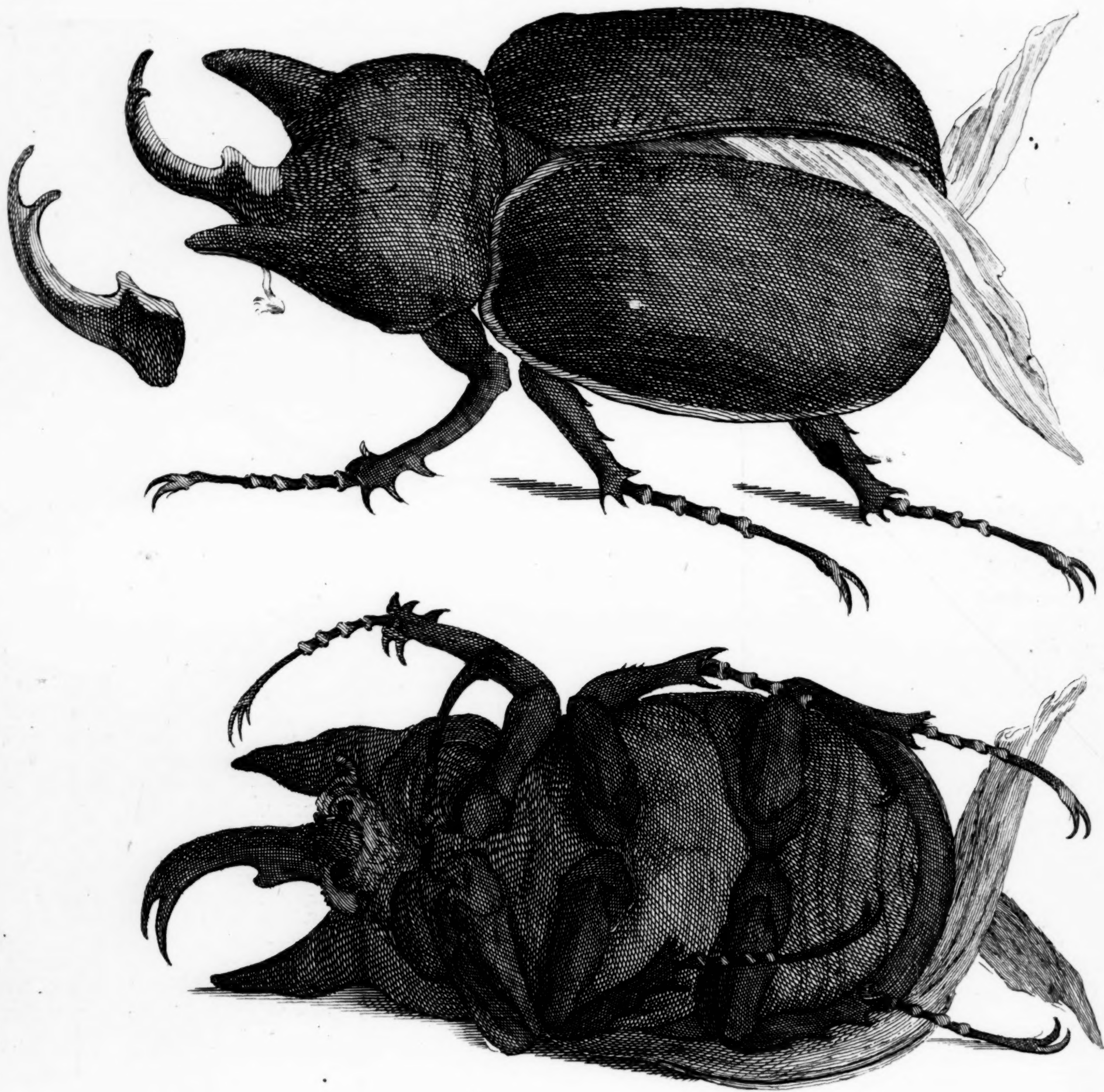
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*The Elephant Beetle.*

*See p. 144*



*Drawn from Nature of  $\frac{1}{4}$  exact size by L. P. Boitard.*



## *An allegorical Account of our present Statesmen*

cause this part to resemble the horn of a Rhinoceros. Some authors have given the figure of an insect resembling this, which they call a Rhinoceros Beetle; but then the trunk has no fork at the end, though the lower horn resembles this; notwithstanding which, this name must be very improper; for though the *African* Rhinoceros, which differs greatly from that of *Asia*, has two horns on the nose, the one longer than the other, yet they have distinct organs, and do not proceed from the same basis, as in this beetle, and in that which they have given the figure of, the legs and feet are three on each side the belly, the shapes of which are best seen in the figure. However they are all forked at the end, but not like lobsters claws, tho' in this subject they have most of them been unluckily broken off. *Linæus* takes notice of two large Beetles, one of which he calls, with other authors, *Cervus volans*, or the Stag-beetle, but this is not above an inch in length. The other he terms *Nasicornis*, because the horn proceeds from the nose, is broad at first, and terminates in a point. This one of our *English* writers names the Unicorn-beetle, but either through negligence or ignorance, he has given no description of it, no more than of the Rhinoceros-beetle.

*The MONITOR, N<sup>o</sup>. XC. April 9.  
Extract of a Letter from on board the Old  
England Man of War at Sea.*

—*Mox reficit rateis*

*Quassas,*—

HOR.

**O**UR ship always bore the character of a prime sailor, and was once reputed to be well manned and well provided against an enemy. But by the credulity of our captain, and the flattery of a few upstarts, who had neither abilities honesty, nor courage, this brave ship has been permitted for upwards of thirty years to run to decay. We have now kept the sea with the utmost difficulty ever since the year 1742.

This naturally produced great murmurings in the ship's company, whose *all* was at stake. But the men entrusted with the helm, having secured the purser, gunner, boatswain and carpenter to their interest, despised our remonstrances and instructions; and they artfully contrived (under pretence of their peculiar regard for his person and interest) to confine our captain to his cabin, and then, by snubbing and brow-beating the bravest, most skilful,

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and honest part of the crew, managed, as, by a guard of soldiers, to keep them under hatches.

By these means the captain was rendered and prejudiced against his crew, and they were forcibly kept in subordination. As to the rest; the crew, about them any favourable representations, were admitted to the knowledge of their iniquity.

These pimps and underlings, who were busied for their masters' interest, when a flag of truce came from the enemy, in regard to the traffic, they spent their time in playing at chess and hazard, and the midshipmen as were seen in motion at the expence of honesty; and these midshipmen, who were the most part a set of cunning fellows, and endowed with more sense than their patrons, saved their own skins, and pushed themselves into the service, who kept a much better look out, they never wanted to be smuggled from the enemy's ships, concealing the counter-bands from the captain, they engrossed the trade to themselves. This, however, with some difficulty in regard to the captain, whose consent was necessary for such resolutions into execution, was also obtained by tickling his vanity with declarations of their entire obedience, and terrifying him with the necessity of oppressive measures for his service, and support of his authority.

But a discovery of this inflaming of the crew, and every body began to be serious. For, the men had all been told, that the private traffic carried on by those at the helm had treacherously signed to the enemy a great part of the most valuable territories, from which the ship had all her masts; and thus was us under a necessity to put up with what as the enemy would please to do. Besides, many circumstances gave rise to suspicion, that our ports were all in the same market, and that we should not have a harbour to put in at.

The foremastmen, upon this, took their hands, and swore they would man mount the quarter deck; with much difficulty prevented by the officers, that such a procedure, soever intended, would expose them to the penalties of the mutiny-bill, and their officers a more plausible and

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See p. 144





cause this part to resemble the horn of a Rhinoceros. Some authors have given the figure of an insect resembling this, which they call a Rhinoceros Beetle; but then the trunk has no fork at the end, though the lower horn resembles this; notwithstanding which, this name must be very improper; for though the *African* Rhinoceros, which differs greatly from that of *Asia*, has two horns on the nose, the one longer than the other, yet they have distinct organs, and do not proceed from the same basis, as in this beetle, and in that which they have given the figure of, the legs and feet are three on each side the belly, the shapes of which are best seen in the figure. However they are all forked at the end, but not like lobsters claws, tho' in this subject they have most of them been unluckily broken off. *Linæus* takes notice of two large Beetles, one of which he calls, with other authors, *Cervus volans*, or the Stag-beetle, but this is not above an inch in length. The other he terms *Nasicornis*, because the horn proceeds from the nose, is broad at first, and terminates in a point. This one of our *English* writers names the Unicorn-beetle, but either through negligence or ignorance, he has given no description of it, no more than of the Rhinoceros-beetle.

The MONITOR, N<sup>o</sup>. XC. April 9.  
Extract of a Letter from on board the Old  
England Man of War at Sea.

—Mox reficit rateis

Quaffas,—

HOR.

OUR ship always bore the character of a prime sailor, and was once reputed to be well manned and well provided against an enemy. But by the credulity of our captain, and the flattery of a few upstarts, who had neither abilities honesty, nor courage, this brave ship has been permitted for upwards of thirty years to run to decay. We have now kept the sea with the utmost difficulty ever since the year 1742.

This naturally produced great murmurings in the ship's company, whose all was at stake. But the men entrusted with the helm, having secured the purser, gunner, boatswain and carpenter to their interest, despised our remonstrances and instructions; and they artfully contrived (under pretence of their peculiar regard for his person and interest) to confine our captain to his cabin, and then, by snubbing and brow-beating the bravest, most skilful,

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and honest part of the crew, they so managed, as, by a guard of swabbers, to keep them under hatches.

By these means the captain was deceived and prejudiced against his best navigators, and they were forcibly kept from his presence. As to the rest; they, who carried about them any favourable symptoms of baseness, were admitted to share the spoils of their iniquity.

These pimps and underlings did all the business for their masters: for, except when a flag of truce came on board from the enemy, in regard to their private traffic, they spent their whole time in playing at cheis and hazard with such of the midshipmen as were seeking for promotion at the expence of honour and honesty; and these midshipmen, being for the most part a set of cunning arch-fellows and endowed with more sense by half than their patrons, saved their own allowance, and pushed themselves into their master's mess, who kept a much better table than the captain himself; for by keeping a good look out, they never wanted good cheer, smuggled from the enemy's shore; and by concealing the counter-band trade from the captain, they engrossed the profits to themselves. This, however, was attended with some difficulty in regard to the captain, whose consent was necessary to carry such resolutions into execution. But this was also obtained by tickling his ears with declarations of their entire obedience, and terrifying him with the necessity of those oppressive measures for his service and the support of his authority.

But a discovery of this inflamed the spirits of the crew, and every body began to grow serious. For, the men had all got a notion, that the private traffic carried on by those at the helm had treacherously consigned to the enemy a great part of our most valuable territories, from whence our ship had all her masts; and thereby laid us under a necessity to put up with such as the enemy would please to grant us. Besides, many circumstances created a suspicion, that our ports were all going to the same market, and that we very soon should not have a harbour to put into.

The foremastmen, upon this, spit in their hands, and swore they would to a man mount the quarter deck; and were, with much difficulty prevented by remonstrances, that such a procedure, how well soever intended, would expose them to the penalties of the mutiny-bill, and give their officers a more plausible argument to

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oppress them. In fine, confusion and discontent prevailed so much in every quarter, that it was not possible to hinder their access to the captain; who, under great surprise to hear such complaints against those, who pretended to be his best friends, gave his word and honour that he would do his best for our common preservation.

This interview between the captain and the representatives of the crew struck the dastardly pilots with such a panic, that, they gave greater tokens of fear than any of us; and under the weight of their shame and the depression of their spirits, they quitted the stern; sneaked away to the fore-castle, and set down to all fours.

The helm thus deserted, the captain was convinced of the inability of the gamesters to conduct her safe into port; and called about him in a great hurry for *Will* the west-countryman, and ordered him up to his cabin directly; for he was well known by every body on board to be the best sailor in the ship, and to be a very honest man. The cabal always knew that, and had tried every way to bring him into their mess; for they knew the crew had a great opinion of *Will*. But *Will* was not a man for their purpose: for when they wanted him to sit down with them to backgammon or all fours, he was always a minding which way the wind was: and when they expected him to be dipping his fingers in the stew-pans, and giving his opinion about the seasoning of their soups, they could not keep his eye from off the compass and log-board.

The captain's inquiries found poor *Will* sick in his hammock. However, as soon as he could, he hobbled upon deck, and, having made an observation, set the captain right, and told him the true state of the ship and her bearings. *Will* directly informed us what latitude we were in, and assured us that we were quite out of our course, yet we might get into it again, if we would but trust the working of the ship to the *English* sailors.

So *Will* took the helm, the *Lascars*, whom he dismissed, looked sour; but the whole *English* gave him a round huzza; he immediately put the ship about, and the wind favouring; though the ship was plaguy foul and leaky; we soon got into the right course. The old cabal, who had been before so insolent and saucy, and were always jawing at *Will* and his comrades, now began to sing another tune, and pretended they would help *Will* if he would let them stand at the helm. *Will* told them he knew their tricks; that they

were a parcel of rascals, and they should not touch the helm with a little finger. He then set to work in order to get the ship to rights. He sent every where for provisions; for the crew had been a good while at short allowance; and ordered some of the men to scrape the filth from the ship's sides, intending, as soon as he got her into harbour, to give her a thorough scrubbing and to new sheath her bottom. But here the roguery of the old clan was found out. The fellows that had been used to be employed in paying her sides and bottom, had at every turn picked something out of the ship. Sometimes they pocketed a few nails, at another time they would rip off a piece of plank and then they smeared the defect over with tallow, so that when the ship came to be examined it was found that she was scarce able to swim. This made a great uproar in the ship, and the clan thinking themselves undone and finding that *Will* was obstinate in his resolutions to bring them to justice, they got into the captain's cabin in the night, and began to terrify him with stories that *Will* was run mad. But, as *Will* was the idol of the crew, and they were all convinced that he had now put them into the right course, it was not safe to turn him down from the helm, and therefore they tried once more to prevail on him to let in some of the old clan: but *Will* was obstinate. He told the captain very civilly that he had took to the helm when the ship was just aground and the other fellows had deserted it. That he had put the ship into the right course and brought her into smooth water: that when ever it was the captain's pleasure he would go from the helm.

The captain loves the old clan and does not like *Will*. The old clan are desperate and are resolved rather than fail to toss him overboard. But we are all in an uproar; for, though *Will* has put our crazy ship into a good fighting condition, and stopped her leaks; we are just now alarmed with the captain's resolution to turn *Will* off, and to set some strange fellows to command, who we fear are insensible or regardless of our danger, and ready to resume the bad measures of the old cabal; and, perhaps, take out half of our crew and send them to man another ship of the captain's in the *Lascar* country.

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HINTS for an Essay on Generous Proposals.

THE RE is no kind of virtue raises us so high in the estimation of mankind



as generosity, and therefore I am glad to find it planted so plentifully in the hearts of my countrymen — Generosity (besides greatness of soul) is the parent of other virtues, and comprehends in its very nature, candour, justice, benevolence and charity—And this virtue our happy country so much abounds with what we see people are generously invited to partake of the bounty of others even in our newspapers, nor can a man make water in the precincts of this great city without being kindly invited by an advertisement pasted up before him, to shelter himself under some good gentleman's protection.

Mr. C—p and Co. sensibly affected with the fate of poor servants who are obliged to work here for eight or ten shillings a week, generously offer them thirty pounds *per Annum*, to go and catch muskatoes in *Jamaica*, or some other of our plantations.

Those great sons of *Æsculapius*, R—k and W—st, and other gentlemen of known benevolence who generously paste up their abilities, and like the oracles of old give advice GRATIS, deserve my consideration and my thanks, and I shall take another opportunity to make my compliments to Mr. I. O.

The serjeant strutting with his halbert on his shoulder, ashamed that any of his countrymen should continue mechanics, kindly invites them by a learned oration to the drum-head, then enters them in the rank of the lower nobility, and generously dubs them all gentlemen soldiers.

Nor are our sailors deprived of the benefits flowing from this great fountain *generosity*, for at all our sea-ports a token of invitation hangs almost at every house to engage them to cast away their care and partake of the master's courtesy within.

Our stock-jobbers too, that even the poor may not be out of fortune's way, compassionately divide their tickets into small shares: nay, some are so generous that they even sell chances to accommodate those in distress.

Nor is this noble spirit of generosity confined to gentlemen only, no, many ladies emulate their example and distribute their benevolence with such spirit and freedom, that in *Fleet-street*, the *Strand*, and other parts of this great city, the poor traveller is invited almost at every door to walk in and refresh himself.

Authors, I think, are the only class of mankind who obstinately refuse their aid to others, but they, it is hoped, will for the

future be taught better, for the great giant *Woglog* (and only a giant is capable of such achievements) has at the end of his fables, lately published, the following proposal, the generosity of which afforded me great satisfaction.

“There are, towards the end of this book, three or four fables which are not originals; but were taken from other authors, and inserted here at the earnest solicitation of some friends. This Mr. *Woglog* thought proper to mention, to obviate any imputation of plagiarism that might be brought against him or his colleague in this work. He is not so fond of fame as to raise trophies to himself on the pedestals prepared by others—no truly—and though reputation is dear to every writer, he is ready to give up his, as an author, to any man, or body of men who will engage to pay for advertising his books; those, therefore, who are inclined to purchase fame at that easy rate are desired to give notice to his bookseller.”

Such greatness of soul could only be expected from a giant, and 'tis hoped, his great example will produce good effects.

#### From the CHRONICLE.

*Short, but serious Reasons for a National Militia.*

Militia potior.

HOR.

IN this age of levity and ridicule, it is extremely difficult to procure a serious attention to any proposal, however important, or however wisely calculated for the public benefit; but sure, if there ever was a proposition deserving such attention from every true *Englishman*, it is this for the establishment of a national militia, now under the consideration of the legislature; on the success of which I sincerely think that our glory abroad, our security at home, and our very being as a nation, intirely depend.

So manifest is the truth of this to the meanest and most absurd understandings, that I never met with one of that kind who has not been clearly convinced of it; to such, therefore, I shall not here address myself, but to the wise and sagacious only, many of whom, to my great surprise, I have found of a very different opinion: To these then, I shall endeavour to prove in as few words as possible, the truth of the following propositions:

1st, That such a militia may soon be rendered not at all inferior to our present regular forces.



2dly, That it will effectually secure our liberties, properties and religion.

3dly, That it will strengthen the hands of government.

4thly, That it will reduce the price of our provisions and manufactures, and extend our trade.

5thly, That it will increase the number of our people. And,

Lastly, That it may be carried into execution without any expence to the public.

First then, I shall endeavour to prove that a militia may very soon be rendered not at all inferior to our present regular forces: and whoever will look back on the behaviour of these forces for some years past, both by land and sea, will be convinced that this is no very arduous undertaking; nor be under any doubt but that after a few days exercise, they will behave as valiantly as our regiments at *Falkirk*, *Preston Pans*, or *Oswego*, or our fleets in the *Mediterranean*. Nor can I indeed comprehend from whence their inferiority should proceed; unless strong beer should inspire less true courage than gin, or being trained in a country church-yard, produce a less familiarity with death, than performing the same exercise in the gay scenes of *Hyde-park* or *St. James's*. If it be objected, that they will be deficient in military knowledge and experience; I answer, they will fight the better: the utility of these qualifications in the day of battle is a vulgar error, propagated, like all others, for want of reasoning; for all fighting being in its own nature contradictory to common sense, it can never be promoted by knowledge: military knowledge, therefore, can never be that sort of knowledge which enables men to fight, but that which enables them to find out good reasons for not fighting; or, if they should be bad, to call in the assistance of councils of war and court-martials to make them better. Much less sure will experience induce men to fight, unless we can believe that wounds and bruises, like coffee and tobacco, though disagreeable at first tasting, grow pleasant by frequent repetitions.

Secondly, That such a militia will secure our liberties, properties, and religion. The liberties we so justly value in this country are these, that every one may think and write, and say and do whatever he pleases; but properties comprehend all things of which we are in possession, by whatever means they have been acquired; these can certainly no way be so effectually secured to us as by the use of arms, by which we may at all times defend ourselves

from the attacks of judges and juries, from writs and ejections, from goals and pillories, with all the tyranny of justices and impertinence of constables, grievances not to be endured in a free country. As to our religion, a scheme of this kind must have most salutary effects, since a bill only for its establishment has already produced unanimity between our church divines and dissenters in one sensible and pious opinion; an event, perhaps, not easy to be remembered on any other occasion.

Thirdly, That it will strengthen the hands of government, which in this nation being, by the consent of all true patriots, allowed to be the sole right of the lowest of the people, or mob, with whom such patriots wonderfully agree in their political sentiments, what can so effectually secure to them the dominion they now exercise over us, as putting arms into their hands, and teaching them how to use them? this must certainly strengthen the hands of these our governors, and consequently of government itself.

Fourthly, It will reduce the price of our provisions and manufactures, and extend our trade; because, when the good people of *England* are thus armed and disciplined, they will be enabled to take away meat, corn, and malt, and all other provisions, from forestallers and engrossers, butchers, millers and farmers, at a reasonable price, of which they themselves must always be the best and most impartial judges. When the price of provisions is thus happily reduced, that of our manufactures must inevitably fall in due proportion; and the reduction of these must as certainly carry more of them to foreign markets, and consequently extend our trade. The truth of this has been so often demonstrated by all writers on trade, and all whose trade is writing, that it is here needless to say any more on the subject.

Fifthly. That it will increase the number of our people. To be convinced of which, gentle reader, figure to thyself all the handsomest young fellows in every county, each armed like the hero in a romance, dressed, powdered, and touped by the reforming hand of a genteel serjeant; then turn thy eyes to the numerous groupe of fair spectators in *Sunday* gowns and clean linen, who will not fail to attend so tempting a show; then, if thou hast not lost all feeling both mental and corporeal, thou canst not doubt but that so much valour on one side, and so much beauty on the other, will



will certainly produce much mutual affection, and that this will as infallibly be the cause of much procreation, and in a great measure repair the losses occasioned by our migrations to *America*, and the depredations of gin. If it be objected, that to balance this, many lives will be lost by the institution of these forces, by the accidental discharge of their firelocks, or the too valiant use of their swords in drunken quarrels; I answer, these accidents may sometimes happen; but, as on the most moderate computation, every man in these corps will probably beget three children before he kills one man, it cannot fail to increase the number of our people. Though the good effect of this truly national scheme has not, that I know of, been observed by any author, who has undertaken to recommend it to the public, yet has it not escap'd the quick-sighted eyes of our sagacious legislature, who, on this very account, have this year voted a large sum to the Foundling Hospital, and propose to increase it still further as soon as their national forces begin to act in the service of their country.

Lastly, That it may be carried into execution without any expence to the public, and this by a method so extremely obvious, that it is surprizing the wisdom of parliament has not discovered it. The method I mean is no more than this: that as every man who attends on the days of exercise, and continues sober, is by the present bill to receive sixpence, I would have it further enacted, that every one who is drunk on those days should pay the sum of sixpence, to be applied towards the support of this national force; a very small penalty sure, for so great a neglect of duty where the safety of his country is at stake. Now whoever has been present at a fair, a sessions, a horse race, an assizes, a cricket match, or a visitation, or any other numerous meeting in the country, must know, that on the most enlarged computation the number of sober cannot exceed the proportion of one in ten of those who are drunk; and there is no reason that I know of to suppose that the majority will be less on this occasion. If so, the public, we see, will receive nine times the sum every day that it will be required to pay, and consequently the remaining eight parts will amply supply these forces with arms, ammunition, cloaths, and accoutrements. But if this should not be found quite sufficient, considering how frequently they will probably be lost, a small matter laid on oaths, many of which they will readily learn from the

instructions of their serjeants, would easily supply all deficiencies, and if the landed officers of these corps would submit to the same penalties, it would much increase the fund; but as these gentlemen, who are to receive nothing for being sober, may think it hard to pay sixpence for being drunk, I would by no means insist on their being included, especially, as I doubt not, but the sum thus raised will be sufficient to defray all expences, and totally to indemnify the public revenues.

The objections made to this scheme are so frivolous and absurd, that they are by no means worthy of observation; but of one or two I will just take notice. It is asserted, that gentlemen of estates in the country, will never submit to the duty of officers without pay; but whoever considers how ready these gentlemen are on all occasions to execute the offices of justice of the peace, commissioners of taxes, and turnpikes, how earnest to spend half their time and all their estates to acquire seats, and to attend their duty in parliament, from whence no possible advantage can accrue, must be satisfied that this is but an unjust suspicion founded on no reason, and inconsistent with the true zeal, which they have ever shewn in the cause of their country.

It is also apprehended, that many of these gentlemen, by indolence, corpulency, age or gout, will be rendered incapable of fighting; but the very reverse of this is certainly true, because these very infirmities will make it impossible for them to run away.

And now having demonstrated the truth of every one of my propositions beyond the power of all ministerial scriblers to disprove, I shall conclude, by recommending this necessary scheme to the protection of all true lovers of their country, and earnestly wishing, that nothing may prevent it from being put into execution as soon as possible: Then O *Britain*, O my country, will I congratulate thee on the consummation of thy prosperity, and the happy period of all thy calamities. Long have thy true patriots wished to see thee engaged singly in a war with *France*, which from their natural superiority must always be attended with glory and success; long hast thou groaned under the oppressions of mercenary allies abroad, and rapacious ministers at home; but at last the time, the happy time is arrived, when, when our wishes are all fulfilled, and our misfortunes wiped away; when; when we are in full possession of such a glorious war, without any allies, or any administration at all.

*The Queen of the May, set by Mr. Oswald.*

Ev'ry Nymph and Shepherd bring tributes to the  
 Queen of May. Rife for her Brows the Spring; Make her  
 as the Season gay Syme  
 Teach her then from eve--ry Flow'r, How to use the  
 fleeting Hour, Teach her then from ev'---ry Flow'r,  
 How to use the fleet---ing Hour.

<sup>2</sup>  
 Now the fair Narcissus blows,  
 With h's sweetness now delights;  
 By his side the maiden rose  
 With her artless blush invites;  
 Such, so fragrant, and so gay,  
 Is the blooming queen of May.

<sup>3</sup>  
 Soon the fair Narcissus dies,  
 Soon he droops his languid head;  
 From the rose her purple isles,

None inviting to her bed.  
 Such, tho' now so sweet and gay,  
 Soon shall be the queen of May.

<sup>4</sup>  
 Tho' thou art a rural queen,  
 By the suffrage of the Swains;  
 Beauty, like the vernal green,  
 In thy shrine not long remains:  
 Bleis, then quickly bleis the youth,  
 Who deserves thy love and truth.



## RETIREMENT, a Poem.

*Ob Fortunatos nimium sua si bona norint  
Agricolae* —

**W**Here gaily smiling in the paths of  
bliss,  
Auspicious plenty with prolific hand,  
Pours forth her balmy treasures and extends,  
Her variegated reign; while nature's form,  
In spring's bright livery clad resplendent  
glows,  
Bear me, celestial muse, on fancy's wing,  
Come, let us wander thro' th' enamel'd grove,  
The laughing meadows and exulting plains,  
With living verdure cloth'd, there gentle  
queen,  
There will we trace pure nature's balmy  
joys  
And blissful glory in the gilded scene;  
That tho' the charms of lux'ry shine not  
here,  
To fire th'enraptur'd soul! no gorgeous dome  
With front exalted threats the neighbour  
clouds.  
What tho' no gilded vestment's gaudy pride,  
In purple blushing spreads a lucid glow.  
Yet, haughty grandeur whence this scornful  
smile,  
Say, whence these frowns contract the rigid  
brow.  
Ruthless ambition? What in all the pomp  
Of state, in all the vanity of pride  
Tho' tow'rs thy scornful soul? tho' pam-  
per'd swells,  
With lux'ry's surfeit proud the reeking breast,  
Lull'd in the lap of pleasure; why insult,  
Why vainly triumph o'er the purer rays  
Of gay humility's celestial hours?  
Cou'dst thou but deign one moment to des-  
cend,  
Cou'd but thy upstart soul one moment  
leave  
The gilded dome, and stoop into the cot?  
With power how feeble would the brightest joys  
Of proud ambition shine, how dim the glow  
Of all the transports grandeur can inspire  
Where now are flown the gloomy train of  
cares  
That gnaw the soul of power, and fiercely  
prey  
With vulture-rage upon the splendid state  
Where lye the rav'nous tumults, where the  
roar  
Of dire confusion's ever-sounding storms,  
And cou'dst thou think that delicately nice,  
Quiet like thee would spurn the straw roof cot,  
And sicken at the sight; with heavenly joys,  
Th' auspicious goddess crowns the swains, and  
smiles  
Indulgent on retirement, all around  
Her genial influence decks the rural scene,  
In ev'ry grove she pours her balmy sweets,  
And smiles on ev'ry field with fragrant wing,  
She fans the shepherd's morn and midnight  
hour,

Shielded by peace; the ever-blissful swain  
Midst all his labour smiles, and when from  
toil

He seeks his distant home, with joy she flies,  
Ev'n to the cot, and lulls his soul to rest,  
When o'er the plains the modest ev'ning fails  
In silent pomp, and waves her fragrant wine,  
Dropping with pearly dew, when now the  
sun

In mildest smiles has shone at last farewell.  
How lulls the distant bleat of sportive lambs,  
How charms the well-fed oxen's lowly voice.  
While slow he roams around with sober pace.  
In sullen majesty; that heav'nly bliss  
Inspires the swain, when wand'ring o'er the  
mead,

(His faithful consort smiling by his side)  
And all his prattling joys in broken sounds,  
Lisping his much-lov'd fame he pores intent,  
With musing bosom o'er his morning toil.  
Can all the splendor, all the pomp of pow'r  
Such heav'nly transports boast, can all her  
charms

Of any charms she spreads such bliss inspire?  
Glow not thy soul, ambition, all allured  
By this attracting view, impartial say,  
Did ever purer raptures charm thy soul,  
Or deck one moment of thy life, tho' crown'd  
With all the lux'ry of a gilded state.

*The Means of an HAPPY LIFE.*

*Nemo potest honeste vivere, nec jucundè, nec  
jucundè, nisi honestè.*

**W**hen forc'd by man's obdurate mind  
Virtue on earth her crown resign'd,  
And flew enrag'd above;  
Stung to the heart, that all below  
Should raise on high her daring foe,  
She clasp'd the knees of Jove;  
And oh all pow'rful god, she cry'd,  
See'st thou unmov'd the daring pride  
Of yon ungrateful race?  
Does not thy race their souls alarm,  
And roars no thunder from thy arm,  
No frowns contract thy face?  
Lo! vice usurps my brilliant throne;  
Lo! upstart queen she bears my crown;  
And braves my force unharm'd.  
Ere while 'twas diff'rent far, my fire,  
Once virtue did your soul inspire,  
Once Jove himself was charm'd;  
Oh! for a moment rush from high  
'Gainst my cursed foe, all pow'rful fly.  
Heav'ns! ev'n thy pow'r she dares!  
Fly, and thy hapless mortals save;  
Fly, 'tis for man the boon I crave,  
For man I pour my pray'rs.  
Oh! save their souls from endless woe!  
(At this the tears all plenteous flow,  
Soft trickling down her face.  
Sighs bursting from her breast ensue,  
Each tear she shed, each sigh she drew  
Augments her ev'ry grace:)

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Mov'd at his suppliant's throbbing pain,  
The god no longer could refrain,  
But, thus with grief return'd,  
Yon earth, the sink of ev'ry crime,  
Long have I view'd (from latest time)

I long have view'd and mourn'd;  
But still close-pent my rage have kept,  
Still slumbering has my vengeance slept,  
Nor thunder'd o'er their head  
For long I wish'd, I hop'd to find,  
That virtue still might on mankind

Her genial influence shed,  
But ah! those hopes are now no more,  
Nor shall my vengeance as before,  
From punishment refrain.

No more the insults Jove will bear,  
But yet the wretches I will spare  
And still my rage contain;

No thunder shall resound from high,  
From Jove no blazing flame shall fly  
No heav'nly fury harm.

But vice their queen with furious course,  
And conscience with relentless force  
Their bosoms shall alarm:

Eternal woes shall gnaw their heart,  
The pangs of guilt with tort'ring smart,  
Shall haunt their lab'ring breast.

But those, whom heav'n born virtue charms,  
Those ever shall be proof to harms,  
Those ever shall be blest.

*Vincit Amor patriæ.*

VIRG.

**H**ORIFICAM Codrus non moto lumine  
fossam,  
Aspicit, et ridens cuncta pericla salit,  
Cognatum frustra manant lacrymæ parentum,  
Pro patria Codrus, nec dolit ipse, salit;  
Cedite quærentes aliena morte triumphos  
En cui morte sua gloria major adest?

PROLOGUE to DOUGLAS a new Tragedy. Spoken by Mr. SPARKS.

**I**N ancient times when Britain's trade was  
arms  
And the lov'd music of her youth alarms:  
A god-like race sustained fair England's fame:  
Who has not heard of gallant Percy's name?  
Ay, and of Douglas? such illustrious foes  
In rival Rome and Carthage never rose!  
From age to age bright shone the British fire,  
And ev'ry hero was a hero's fire.  
When powerful fate decreed one warrior's  
doom,  
Up sprung the phoenix from his parents tomb.  
But whilst these generous rivals fought and  
fell,  
These generous rivals lov'd each other well:  
Tho' many a bloody field was lost and won,  
Nothing in hate, in honour all was done,

When Percy wrong'd, defy'd his prince and  
peers.

Fast came the Douglas with his Scottish  
spears;

And, when proud Douglas made his king his  
foe,

For Douglas, Percy bent his English bow.

Expell'd their native homes by adverse fate,

They knock'd alternate at each other's gate:

Then blaz'd the castle at the midnight hour,

For him whose arms had shook the firmest  
tower.

This night a Douglas your protection claims;

A wife! a mother! pity's softest names;

The story of her woes indulgent hear,

And grant your suppliant all she begs a tear.

In confidence she begs: and hopes to find

Each English breast, like noble Percy's kind.

EPILOGUE. Spoken by Mr. BARRY.

**A**N Epilogue I ask'd; but not one word  
Our bard will write. He vows 'tis most  
absurd

With comic wit to contradict the strain  
Of tragedy, and make your sorrows vain.

Sadly he says that pity is the best,

And noblest passion of the human breast:

For when its sacred streams the heart o'er-  
flow,

It gushes pleasure with the tide of woe;

And when its waves retire, like those of  
Nile,

They leave behind them such a gentle soil,

That there the virtues without culture grow,

There the sweet blossoms of affection blow.

These were his words; void of delusive art

I felt them; for he spoke them from his  
heart.

Nor will I now attempt, with witty folly,  
To chase away celestial melancholy.

A THEATRICAL TALE.

**W**HILE poor Calista, vilely injur'd  
maid,

To ruin, by the man she lov'd, betray'd,

In soul-taught energy of grief complain'd

Of false Lothario, and her honor stain'd.

Young Stella pensive sat; each word she  
caught,

And sympathiz'd with every plaintiff thought;

Her breast, thick throbbing answer'd to the  
sigh,

And the big gush, swell'd social in her eye.

While rival beauties sneer'd, and each vain  
beau.

Indulg'd their smiles, nor social pity show;

To Julia's eye alone her charms appear'd

By raying clouds, like Iris' bow endear'd;

With elegance of taste and wisdom blest,

He knew compassion in the human breast.

Was



Was the rich soil where all the virtue's shoot,  
And bear abundant life's best flavour'd fruit;  
He knew a worthy object might improve,  
And risen pitying tears, to balmy love.  
Grac'd with youth's beauty, and an honour'd  
name,

A splendid fortune, and unfulled fame,  
He to the virtuous fair his suit address'd,  
(Virtue and beauty, all that she possess'd,  
He urg'd his soul by genuine love inspir'd,  
First from the hallow'd beams at virtue fir'd,  
Mention'd his fortune as it might supply  
Indulgence to her darling charity.  
Struck with the portrait of *Calista's* woes,  
With joy, a spouse, like *Altamont*, she chose;  
That each great soul its partners worth might  
prove,  
And share alike that Gem of happiness, true  
love.

J. J.

## ODE to the Memory of SHAKESPEAR.

Written by Mr. HAVARD,

And set to music by Dr. BOYCE.

T Itles and ermine, fall behind—  
Be this a tribute to the mind!  
O for a muse of fire,  
Such as did *Homer's* soul inspire!  
Or such an inspiration as did swell  
The bosom of the *Delphic* oracle!  
Or one yet more divine,  
Thine, *Shakespeare*, thine!  
Then should this song immortal be;  
Nor the verse blush that praises thee.  
Taught by yourself alone to sing,  
Sublime you soar on nature's wing;  
How sweet the strain! how bold the flight!  
Above the rules  
Of critic schools,

And cool correctness of the stagyrite.

When horror ombers o'er the scene,  
And terror with distorted mein,  
Erefts the hair, and chills the blood;  
Whose painting must be understood  
To strike such feelings to the soul:  
What master-genius works the whole?

*Shakespeare* alone.

He, pow'rful ruler of the heart,  
With ev'ry passion plays;  
Now strikes the string, and every part  
The magic touch obeys.

He reigns alone,

Nor can his throne

Fear usurpation or decay,

Lasting as time, and bright as southern day.

*Shakespeare*! no single merit's thine:

How can we separate what's divine?

Thy mind effulgent shoots forth rays,  
Like the bright sun, ten thousand ways,

Yet is the body all intire,

One glorious mass of intellectual fire

Now roars the scene with humour's jest:

Now plaintiff sorrows flow:

And now with pity's sigh oppress'd,

We feel, we share the lover's woe.

When jealous passions rage,

What thunder shakes the stage!

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Loud as the trump th'arch-angel bears,  
When the last sound shall rent the spheres.

Others may by unwearied aim,

One passage only find to fame;

Thro' one unvaried track pursue,

And keep the destin'd mark in view:

But *Shakespeare*, that undaunted soul,  
Leaps into space, and occupies the whole:

If e'er thy lofty wing

Too daringly has flown,

'Twas but, *Columbus*-like,

To find out worlds unknown.

## CHORUS.

Then, *Britain*, boast that to thy sons was  
giv'n

The greatest genius ever sent from Heav'n!

## ELEGY on the Death of Adm. BYNG.

From the London Chronicle.

F Atal vicissitude —  
Was it for this that fortune graced thy  
birth,  
Bestow'd thee titled honour, pomp, and place,  
And pointed out the way that led to worth,  
To make thy death conspicuously base?  
Grant me, just heav'n's! to breathe in desert air,  
And mourn my days in solitude forlorn,  
Rather than seat me in ambition's chair,  
If I must live and die my country's scorn.

Yet from the smallest to the greatest crimes  
Some little share of gentle pity's due.  
*Britons*! if 'tis with-held in other climes,  
The poor offender claims the debt from you.  
'Tis your's to follow radiant truth, to poise  
The scales of justice with an even hand,  
But then 'tis great, 'tis just to sympathize—  
Else wherefore breathe ye in a christian land?  
Since he has paid the forfeit of the laws,  
Indulge his friends the tribute of a sigh,  
It will not wrong a suff'ring nation's cause;  
Heav'n loves the drops that flow from pity's  
eye.

No longer let revenge pursue its blow,  
Nor scandal strive his mem'ry to degrade;  
Let deep oblivion bury all his woe,  
And o'er his foibles spread her friendly shade.  
Oh! then (if ye can grant a boon so great)  
Forgive the muse, if o'er his mould'ring bier,  
In kind condolence for his hapless fate,  
She gen'rous drops the sympathetic tear.

But if emerging forth from time's dark womb  
Truth should exculpate his inglorious name,  
Will not each *Briton* reverence his tomb,  
And future bards immortalize his fame?

Thy foes must own, and while they own, admire,  
O *Byng*, thy calm composure at thine end.  
Too late (thou victim to thy country's ire)  
Unbias'd reason shews herself thy friend.

March 21, 1757.

BENEVOLUS.

X

HIS-

## HISTORICAL MEMOIRS.

(Continued from p. 99. vol. II.)

SINCE the publication of our last, two skirmishes have happened between the *Prussians* and *Austrians* on the frontiers of *Bohemia*, which are thus related: On the 20th of *February* a body of 6000 *Austrians* surrounded the little town of *Hirschfeld* in upper *Lusatia*, which was garrisoned by a battalion of *Prussian* foot. The first attack was made at four in the morning, on the two redoubts without the gates, on each of which was placed two field-pieces: and though the *Austrians* were several times repulsed, they at last made themselves masters of one of the redoubts, and carried off the two pieces of cannon. In their retreat they were followed by the *Prussians*, who fell upon their rear, killed some of them and took many prisoners. The *Austrians* own they lost 500 men in the different attacks.—About the 6th instant the duke of *Bevern* marched out of *Zittau* with a body of near 9000 men, in order to destroy the *Dens* the *Austrians* keep on their frontiers. In which expedition he took the *Austrian* magazine at *Friedland* in *Bohemia*, consisting of 9000 sacks of meal and great store of ammunition; and after making himself master of *Reichenberg*, he return'd to *Zittau*. The van of his troops, consisting of 150 *Hussars* of the regiment of *Putkammer*, met a body of 600 *Croats*, sustained by two hundred *Austrian* dragoons of *Bathiant*, at their entering *Bohemia*, and immediately fell upon them sword in hand, killed about fifty of them, took thirty horses, and made ten dragoons prisoners. The *Prussians* did not lose one single man on this occasion, two of them only were slightly wounded, the *Austrians* having been immediately put to flight.

The court of *Vienna* notwithstanding its behaviour to our allies, seems to pay some regard to the subjects of *Great Britain*, for an edict was published at *Florence* the 13th of *February* last, wherein his imperial majesty, as grand Duke of *Tuscany*, has declared his royal intention of observing the strictest neutrality in the present situation of affairs, which the several ports in this duchy are particularly enjoined to regard, in all cases relating to the *French* or *English* ships in the *Mediterranean*. This it is hoped will some what curb the insolence of the *French* privateers, and it hath already had a good effect, for two prizes one belonging to capt. *Wright*, and the other to captain *Wilson*, having put into *Porto Ferrajo*, the captains of two *French*

privateers audaciously addressed the governor, requesting that they might be obliged to put to sea, and alledged that they were the captures of a pirate; but the governor prudently replied, that as they came in under *English* colours he would protect them, and forbid them at their peril to commit any violence: they however, little regarding the governor's orders prepared for sailing, and sent their boats to cut out captain *Wright's* prize. The captain of the prize had just time to load some musquets, and firing a volley at their boats killed one of their men; this alarmed the centinels, and notice being sent to the governor he ordered the two privateers immediately to depart.

The squadron of *M. d'Arche*, which was for some time detained at *Brest* by contrary winds sailed on the 18th of *March*; together with the ships from *l'Orient*. It is by no means certain that this fleet is going to the *East-Indies*, for altho' this was given out to be its destination, an opinion prevails that it is intended to attack *St. Helena*. They were however, obliged to put back to *Brest* again, and as the *Formidable*, of 84 guns, ran foul of another ship, and both were very much damaged, this expedition must again be deferred for some time.

Most of the *Saxon* regiments which the king of *Prussia* hath taken into his service, are ordered to hold themselves ready to join the army of observation which is assembling on the *Weser*.

And prince *Maurice of Anhalt Dasselau* is set out for *Zwickau*, on the frontiers of *Bohemia* towards *Egra*, where the king of *Prussia* is to assemble 18, or 20,000 men, at the opening of the campaign, and as only one regiment of troops will be left in possession of *Dresden*, the king of *Prussia* has thought proper to disarm the citizens, and order'd their arms to be deposited in the arsenal.

The *French* king hath demanded of the states general a passage on the *Neuse* by *Masfricht*, for the artillery and warlike stores designed for the army on the lower *Rhine*; which their high mightinesses have begged his majesty not to insist on, as it would be a breach of their neutrality, and we hear they have since refused it. He has also applied to the magistrates of *Nuremberg*, for leave to form a magazine of provisions and forage in that city.

From *Bohemia* we learn, that the imperial troops have on all sides been in motion, and are



are filed off towards the frontiers of Saxony, where 80,000 men that are to compose the grand army were to be assembled on the 6th instant.

All the troops are likewise in motion throughout Saxony, and the grand Prussian army is assembling on the left of the Elbe near Dippoldswalde, from whence it will extend to Königstein.

The troops of Hanover, and those of its

allies, are also preparing for the defence of that electorate, and the head quarters of the French troops is established at Neuss; where the corps of the royal volunteers arrived the 2d instant.

These are the dispositions made for the ensuing campaign, from which, and the acrimony that at present subsists between the contending powers, great destruction may be expected.

## Chronological Diary, for 1757.

SATURDAY March 12.

A Commission empowering the lord privy seal, and several other lords to declare, and notify the royal assent to several public and private bills, was read this day in the House of Peers, and the royal assent given to An act to prohibit for a limited time, the making of low wines and spirits from wheat, barley, malt, or any other sort of grain, or from meal or flour--An act for the better regulation of his majesty's marine forces while on shore--To two road bills, and two private bills.

TUESDAY 15.

A high wind at west and north-west, did great damage in and about London, particularly at Richmond, Ham, and Twickenham. At Cambridge many large trees were blown down, or torn up by the roots, and numbers of chimnies; and several barns, stacks of corn, hayricks, &c. were levelled with the ground. Two people were killed near Bedford, one by the blowing over of a cart, and the other by the falling of a barn as he was threshing. At Liverpool six outward bound foreigners were put ashore upon the rocks, and as many opposite to the town, one vessel run through the middle of another, and several keel upwards; chimneys blown down in almost every street of the town, large buildings destroyed, numbers of people drowned, and many sadly hurt. Near twenty feet of St. Thomas's steeple was blown into the church. At Worcester, whilst Mr. Justice Wilmot was sitting in the Nisi Prius court, a stack of chimneys of the town hall was blown down, which made its way thro' the cieling into the court, and killed seven persons, amongst whom were Mr. Larus, cryer to Mr. justice Wilmot, and Mr. Chambers, plaintiff in the cause trying before the court: Several other persons were slightly hurt, amongst whom were counsellors Moreton, Aston, and Ashurst. At Chester several houses, and about 100 Chimnies, were blown down, all the windmills round the country, and above 100 large trees. At Namptwich the church is sadly shattered, and the houses were mostly stripped. At Acton, about a mile from

Namptwich, the top of the church steeple was blown down, with the bells, the fall of which beat in the roof of the church, and demolished most of the pews.

MONDAY 23.

The boy coming with the Norwich mail from Epping, was stoped by the high stone near Layton-stone, about four in the morning, by a single highwayman, who took the mail and rode off with full speed towards Epping. The portmanteau was found, the bags (which were the Norwich, Sewaffham, Attleborough, Windham, Thetford, Lynn, Stoke, Bury St. Edmunds, Newmarket, Saffron Walden, Cambridge, Bishop-Stortford, Sawbridgeworth, Downham, Epping, Ongar Ely and (being taken out near Walthamstow, by a farmer, and brought to the post-office, in Lombard-street about noon.

TUESDAY 22.

For the better supply of seamen to serve on board merchant and other trading ships and privateers, his majesty pursuant to the powers granted by parliament for that purpose, issued his royal proclamation, permitting them during the continuance of the war, to be navigated by foreign seamen, provided their number shall not exceed three-fourths of the ship's crew.

FRIDAY, 25.

Was held the anniversary meeting of the governors of the London hospital at Merchant Taylors-hall; at which were present the duke of Devonshire, president; the Ld Bp of Worcester, and several other governors. The collection at church and at the hall amounted to 2040l. 15s 6d.

TUESDAY, 29.

The duke of Devonshire, the earls of Northumberland, Hertford, and Carlisle, were installed knights of the noble order of the garter at Windsor.

The sentence pronounced against Robert Francis Damien was executed on the 28th instant. He was first brought in a scavenger's cart to the gate of the cathedral, where he performed the amende honorable in his shirt, holding a lighted torch of 2lb. weight, and

on his knees confessed his horrid crime, begging pardon of God, and the king, and the law. From thence he was carried in the same cart to the Greve. They took him up to the town-house, and kept him there an hour; after which he was laid upon the scaffold, where his parricide hand was first pierced, then cut off, and burnt with sulphur. Then they tortured him with red hot irons in his breasts, arms, and calves of his legs, and poured into his wounds melted lead, boiling oil, flaming resin, and wax and brimstone melted together. These operations being over, his limbs were tied to four horses, in order to be drawn asunder; but though the beasts were stout and vigorous, they could not do it in five or six pulls. Permission to dismember him was afterwards demanded, and with difficulty obtained. There were signs of life in him to that very moment. In fine, his quarters and trunk were thrown into a blazing pile, and continued burning till seven o'clock the next morning. His ashes are to be scattered to the four winds.

## THURSDAY, 31.

The act for the relief of insolvent debtors expired.

The anniversary of the Small-pox hospital was held at Draper's-hall, when the Lord bishop of *St. Asaph*, Sir *John Honeywood*, Sir *Charles Kemys Tyme*, Sir *James Dashwood*, and several other governors and gentlemen were present. The collection at the church and hall amounted to 608*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.*

## FRIDAY April 1.

A commission empowering the Lord *Sandys*, the duke of *Marlborough*, and the duke of *Dorset*, to declare the royal assent to the following bills, viz.

The bill for regulating the woollen manufacture.

The bill to enable *Charles Lenox*, duke of *Richmond*, to make a settlement on Lady *Mary Bruce*, his wife.

The Bill for settling a jointure on the earl of *Euston's* lady, and eight public and nine private bills.

One *Evans*, who had bred a riot at a public house near *Helboune-Bars*, being secured by the constable, who sent three watchmen to conduct him to *Clerkenwell* bridewell, but in the way he found means to stab one in the temples and rip up the belly of the other. The two watchmen are since dead.

## SATURDAY 2.

The number of forces provided for by parliament this year amounts to 49,749 men, including 4008 invalids.

The restitution of the *Duc de Penthièvre* prize, taken by the *Antigallican* privateer, and carried into *Cadix*, having been demanded of the court of *Spain* by the *French*, we hear that the said ship, in consequence of orders of

the court of *Madrid*, remains a deposit in the hands of *Spain*, the hatches being sealed up and under a *Spanish* guard, in order to prevent all embezzlement, until the grounds of the said *French* pretension can be examined and judged.

*Lord. Gaz.*

## SUNDAY 3.

The front of several houses on *London* bridge were blown down, by which several persons passing along were terribly bruised but not killed.

During the time of divine service, at the *French* chapel near *Soho*, the flooring gave way into the cellar, which is very large; by which accident several persons fell in; some of which were taken up for dead, and many with their limbs broke and hurt in a terrible manner.

## MONDAY, 4.

Letters arrived from *New-York* given an account that a general embargo was laid upon the shipping, on account of a private expedition, which was speedily to be executed. And that Lord *London's* army had been joined by a great number of provincial troops, and they were about proceeding to action with great harmony. Also the transports, with 2000 men from *Ireland*, are all safely arrived at *New-York*, excepting one ship, which is put into *Virginia* in distress, with 150 men.

## WEDNESDAY 6.

The Rt. Hon. the Earl of *Winchester*, Sir *William Rowley*, *Edward Boscarwen*, and *Gilbert Elliot*, esqrs. the right hon. lord *Carysford*, *Savage Moslyn*, and *Edward Sandys*, esqrs. were appointed commissioners for executing the office of high admiral of Great-Britain.

The Rt. Hon. Mr. *Pitt*, by his majesty's command, resigned the seals of secretary of state for the southern department.

The Rt. hon. Lord *Mansfield*, chief justice of the court of King's-Bench, made chancellor of his majesty's exchequer, in the room of the hon. *Henry Legge*, esq;

## THURSDAY 7.

The Rt. hon. *Henry Fox*, obtained a grant of clerk of the pells in *Ireland* (2000*l.* a year.) in reversion after the death of the Right Hon. *George Bub Doddington*, to him, and his two sons, remainder to the survivor.

## SATURDAY 9.

This morning, about six o'clock, his royal highness the duke of *Cumberland* set out for *Harwich*, to embark there, in his way to *Hanover*.

The bounties to seamen and landmen, for enlisting voluntarily into his majesty's service are prolonged to the 12th of *May*.

The lofty and beautiful steeple belonging to *St. Francis* abbey, in the city of *Cathol*, in *Ireland* in the dead of the night, on *February* 13, fell down, but without doing other damage.



age than terrifying such persons as were awake, with its prodigious noise. It had stood above 500 years, and the base or arch under it, has been mouldering for several years, which at last occasioned the fall of the superstructure.

PROMOTIONS.

John Bowes to be chancellor or keeper of the great seal of Ireland.

Edward Willes to be chief Baron in the court of exchequer in Ireland.

Dr. Matthew Hatton, abp. of York to be abp. of Canterbury.

Henry Lushington, M. A. to the vicarage of Bexhill, Suffex.

Thomas Newton, D. D. to a prebendary of Westminster.

Cornelius Wills, M. A. to be rector of St. Peter, in the Isle of Thanet.

Jeremy Belgrave, M. A. to the rectory of Kilworth in Leicestershire.

Rev. Mr. Ford to the vicarage of Plashley in Wilts.

Samuel Speed, M. A. to the vicarage of Martyr Worthy in Southampton.

Edward Baker, B. A. to the rectory of Dunstan in Wilts.

MARRIAGES.

April 1. Charles Lenox, Duke of Richmond, to the Rt. Hon. Lady Bruce, sister to the Earl of Aylesbury.

Thomas Kippax, esq; to Miss Wheeler.

DEATHS.

March 15. SIR Thomas Birch, one of his majesty's justices of the court of common pleas.

18. James Elton, esq; at Weybridge, Surry. Admiral Towry on the half pay.

Lady of alderman Fludyer of London.

21 Rt. Hon. Henry Bowes Howard, Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire, viscount Andover, baron Walden, and baron Howard of Charlton, aged 69: he is succeeded in honour and estate by his grandson, a minor at Eaton.

22. Countess dowager of Salisbury, aged 80. Hon. Mrs Burnet, sister to the D. of Dorset.

24. Sir John Frederick, bart. in Pall mall; succeeded by his brother, now Sir Thomas.

Thomas Horton of Dean's gate, Manchester, esq;

25. Justice Poole of Islington.

Sir William Strachan, of Haymes Place, in Gloucestershire, bart. banker, broker, and merchant.

27. Lady of the hon. Robert Herbert, esq; member for Wilton.

28. Lady Tyrell, widow of Sir John Tyrell of Heron in Essex.

Lady Margaret Johnston, lady of the attainted lord Ogilvie.

Edward Manning, speaker to the assembly at Kingston Jamaica.

James Stuart, esq; admiral in chief of the british navy.

Hon. Mr. Herbert, esq; groom of the bed-chamber to his majesty, and member for Wilton.

April. 2. Sir William Flemming, knight of the shire for Cumberland.

4. Dr. William Wasey, some time president of the college of physicians.

James Thomas, esq; deputy auditor, to Mr. Auditor Aislabe.

Mr. James Amos an eminent haberdasher in Fleet-street.

Rev. Dr. Baily in the Kings Bench prison possessed of several livings.

9. Lieutenant general Henry Skelton, colonel of the 12th regiment of foot.

Captain Bradley of Well Close-Square

Mr. Obrian, an eminent broker.

Mrs. Paul relict of the late Dr. George Paul.

10. John Cay, esq; judge of the Marshalsea.

Dr. Merrick, of Reading, he had been twice mayor of the town.

11. Sir Paul Methuen, knight of the Bath.

B — NK — PTS.

Mary Collins of Bath, woollen draper.

Anne Sayle of Worcester, shopkeeper.

Joh Carter of Suffolk Street, Southwark, woolcomber.

Robert Bright the elder, of White Roathing Essex, butcher.

Isaac Jeffreys of St. Issells and William Butler of Pulchoan of Pembrokehire, partners and dealers.

George Browne and John Pearless, of St. George the Martyr in Southwark, distillers.

John Shipman, of Chelsea, Middlesex, taylor and victualler.

Howell Thomas, of St. James Westminster, Middlesex, coach and coach-harness maker.

James Kennard, late of Ramsgate, Kent, merchant.

Henry Steel, late of Whitehaven, Cumberland, merchant.

William Bunduck, of Bishopsgate-street, hairfeller.

Matthew Hutchinson, of St. Martin in the Fields, victualler.

*Ships taken by the FRENCH.*

THE Union, Way is carried into Feshamp.

The Westons Adventure, Lamb, and the Providence, Cole, are carried into St. Malo.

The Martha, Curtise, from London to Gibraltar is carried into Cadiz.

The Anne, Haslap, from Rotterdam for Dublin, is carried into Calais.

The Just Reward, Alcock, is carried into Marseilles.

A vessel that had 58 Casks of Indigo on board, is carried into St. Malo.

The

The Shropshire, Wigg, from Jamaica for London, is carried into Brest.

The Dolphin Packet-Boat, Capt. Cockrill, bound from Helvoet to Harwich, was taken and carried into Calais the 20th instant by a French Privateer Snow of 14 guns and 130 Men, call'd the General Lally, Pierre Sauve, commander, belonging to Boulogne. The Mail was thrown overboard.

The Hanover Packet, from Falmouth for Lisbon, is carried into Brest.

The Duke Packet, from the Groyne, with two Mails, is carried into St. Malo.

The Constantine Privateer, of Bristol, of 18 guns and 130 men, is taken by the Hippopotame man of war.

The Trinity, Davy, from Alicant is carried into Malaga.

The Dolly and Nancy, Wynn, from Jamaica is carried into Dunkirk.

The Prosperity, of Dartmouth, is carried into Landerneau river.

The——Lewis from Yarmouth for Leith; the William and Margaret, Dawson, from Wells for Sunderland; the Friends Goodwill, Larberry for Harwich; the Sunnysides, Richards, of Boston, from Sunderland; and the Speedwell, Dawson, for Sunderland, have all been taken, and ransomed.

The Society Mac Carty, from Bristol to Malaga, taken by a French letter of marque ship.

The Mary Anne Salmon, from South Carolina for London, is carried into St. Malo.

On the 26th of March, a French lugg-sail Privateer came close in the Land, off the Northforeland Light, and cut three sloops away that were at anchor close in by Broad-Stairs, and carried them away. The cu tom-house boat of Broad-Stairs had but just put off from one of the sloops.——We must beg leave to remark, that ever since the beginning of last war eight pieces of ordnance have been placed upon the cliff, but neither engineer or ammunitinn has yet been provided for the defence of the coast.

The Charming Sally, Davenant, from Rhode Island from London, is carried into Boulogne.

The Osgood, Strahan, from Virginia for London is carried into Bourdeaux.

The Hester, House, from Antigua, is taken in America.

The Conquest, Grimstead, from Cagliari, is carried into Carthage.

The Dutchess of Blandford, Axford, from Jamaica for Bristol; and the Molly, Lewis, from Virginia for London, the Duke, Shaw, from Scotland for Venice, the Swift, from Lisbon, laden with wine and fruit, are taken by a Bayonne privateer.

The Friends Good-will, Trye, from Oporto for Dublin, is carried into Dinant.

The Adventure, burthen 140 Tons, laden

with Cod and Salmon, is taken and carried into Marseilles.

The Sea Nymph, Cawell, from Cadiz for Falmouth; and the Fox, Baker, from Seville for London, is carried into Bourdeaux.

An English brig of 60 tons, laden with Malaga wine, is carried into Rochelle.

The Milnes, M'Cload, from Virginia for Hull, is taken in America.

#### *Ships taken by the ENGLISH.*

A French privateer of ten carriage guns, 12 swivels, is carried into Falmouth by the Lion privateer of Bristol.

The Union, from Marseilles for Smyrna, is taken by the Hawke, Wilfon, of London.

A Snow from Bourdeaux for Dublin is sent into Bristol by the Caesar privateer.

The Musketo privateer, Capt. Pinnell, belonging to Nova Scotia, has taken a brig from Martinico for Bourdeaux, and carried her into Charles-Town, South Carolina.

L'amiable, from St. Domingo for Bourdeaux, is taken by the Charles-Town, Webb, and sent into Madeira.

The Neptune, Rutherford, from Seville for London is retaken and carried into Cadiz.

The Surprize man of war has carried into Barbadoes, the Marie Eleanor, from Bourdeaux for St. Domingo.

The Hercules privateer of New York has taken and carried into Barbadoes, a French privateer of six carriage guns.

The Sarah privateer of Barbadoes has carried into that place, the Negrillon, from Rochelle for Martinico.

Le Bien Acquis, of 300 tons, for Mississippi, is sent into Bristol by the Tyger privateer of that port, and the king of Prussia of London.

The Judith, Spencer, from St. Kitts for London, is retaken by the Tyger, of Bristol, and the St. Olave privateer of London.

The Montreal, of Bourdeaux, from Martinico, is sent into Falmouth by the King of Prussia privateer, capt. Menzes, of London.

The Joseph, from Olive, St. Domingo, is taken by the Eagle privateer, and brought into Bristol.

The Esperance, bound from Rochelle to Mississippi, with provisions, bale goods, military stores, is taken by the Caesar privateer, and sent into Bristol.

The Tartar man of war commanded by capt. Bailly (during the indisposition of capt. Lochart, has brought in a fine new large French privateer, call'd the Victory, of Havre de Grace, mounting 26 nine pounders, besides swivels. The Tartar met her off Portland, engaged her an hour and a half, she had 230 men on board, had been out of Havre but four days, and had taken nothing. The Tartar had but one man wounded; the privateer 18 killed and 25 wounded. The Tarte is a 20 gun ship.



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